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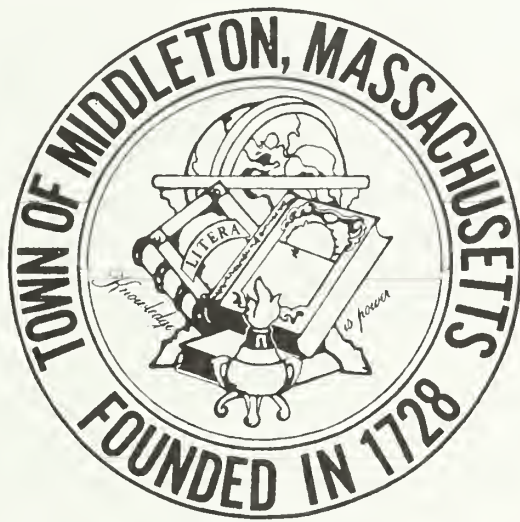
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1998 ANNUAL REPORT

*Cover photograph is a summer-time view of the Ipswich River
as viewed from South Main Street
at the Danvers and Middleton town line*

*Cover design and photography
courtesy of
Christian Anderson Photography, Middleton*

1998 ANNUAL REPORT



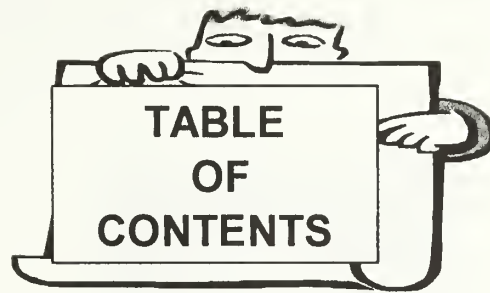
*Town of
Middleton
Massachusetts*

TWO HUNDRED AND SEVENTIETH
MUNICIPAL YEAR



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DEDICATION

RICHARD O. AJOOTIAN

5/29/33 – 6/9/98

The list of offices held and committees served on by Dick Ajootian is certainly impressive. However, mere lists do not tell the story of how his dedication, his knowledge and his ethics have influenced every aspect of life in the Town of Middleton.

Dick knew everything about Middleton. His service as an assessor, a member of the Zoning Board of Appeals and a member of the Historical Commission, all contributed to an incredible reserve of information that he could call upon to shed light on any situation or simply because it was all so interesting.

He served on school building committees and worked for more parks and recreations spaces for the Town's youth. However, there was a special place in his heart for the senior citizens. He always tried to insure that Middleton would remain affordable and comfortable for its older residents.

Dick was a full time Selectman. There was no time that he was unavailable to his constituents. He brought a sense of personal responsibility to the Board. Even after spending the better part of thirty years as a Selectman, he did not tire of it.

One could agree or disagree with him, but no one ever questioned the fact that Dick's only motive was the good of the Town. He was a husband, a father, a grandfather, a friend, an accomplished gardener and a true public servant.

Dick, we miss you.

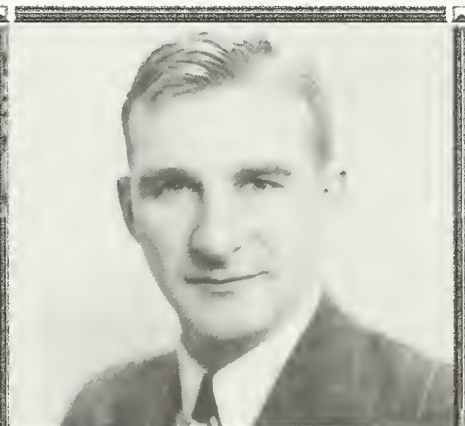
IN MEMORIAM



LESLIE MERRIFIELD
1902 - 1995



EDWARD COUTURE
POLICE OFFICER
1948 - 1997



WILLIAM MARTIN
RETIRED TOWN CLERK
1911 - 1998



FRED RUBCHINUK
1917 - 1998



EDWARD J. RICHARDSON
RETIRED POLICE CHIEF
1933 - 1998



1998 MIDDLETON MEETING SCHEDULE OFFICE HOURS AND TELEPHONE LISTING

OFFICE	DAY	TIME	PLACE	TELEPHONE
Accountant	Monday - Friday	8:00 - 5:00	Memorial Hall	978-777-4966
Town Administrator	Monday - Friday	8:30 - 5:00	Memorial Hall	978-777-3617
Animal Control Officer	Varies		26 Locust Street	978-777-0825
Annual Town Meeting	Second Tuesday in May		North Shore Tech. H.S.	978-762-0001
Annual Town Election	Monday after Town Meeting		Fuller Meadow School	
Board of Appeals	Fourth Thursday	7:30pm	195 North Main Street	978-777-8917
Board of Appeals Office	Monday - Friday	8:00 - 4:00	195 North Main Street	978-777-8917
Board of Assessors	Monday, Wednesday, Thursday Tuesday Friday	8:00 - 4:00pm 8:00 - 8:00 pm 8:00 - 12:00pm	Memorial Hall	978-774-2099
Assessors Office	Monday & Wednesday-Friday Tuesday	8:30 - 4:30 8:30 - 8:00	Memorial Hall	978-774-2099
Conservation Comm.	First Tuesday	7:30pm	195 North Main Street	978-777-1869
Con. Comm. Office	Monday - Friday	8:00 - 4:00	195 North Main Street	978-777-1869
Council on Aging	First Wednesday	9:30am	Senior Center	978-777-4067
COA Senior Center	Monday, Wednesday, Friday	9:00 - 1:00	Old Town Hall	978-777-4067
DPW	Monday - Friday	8:00 - 4:00	195 North Main Street	978-777-0407

Electric Light Dept. Office	Second Thursday Monday - Friday	Board Mtg 8:00 - 4:00	197 North Main Street	978-774-4313
EMERGENCY		24 hrs	FIRE, POLICE & AMBULANCE	911
Finance Committee		Variable	Fuller Meadow School	
FIRE Department		24 hours	non-emergency	978-774-2466
Fuller Meadow School	Monday - Friday	8:00 - 3:00	143 So. Main Street	978-750-4756
Board of Health	First Wednesday	8:00pm	195 North Main Street	978-777-1869
Health Office	Monday - Friday	8:00 - 4:00	195 North Main Street	978-777-1869
Housing Authority	Second Tuesday	7:30pm	Orchard Circle	978-774-4333
Howe-Manning School	Monday - Friday	7:30 - 4:00	26 Central Street	978-774-3519
Inspections Office	Monday & Wednesday - Friday Tuesday (by appointment)	8:00 - 4:00 4:00 - 7:00	195 North Main Street	978-777-2850
Library Trustees	Second Monday	7:00pm	Flint Public Library	978-774-8132
Planning Board	2nd and 4th Wednesday	7:30pm	195 North Main Street	978-777-8917
Planning Office	Monday - Friday	8:00 - 4:00	195 North Main Street	978-777-8917
POLICE Department	Monday - Friday	8:00 - 5:00	65 North Main Street	978-774-4424
Recreation Comm.	Second Wednesday	7:00pm	Senior Center	
Regional School Comm	First & Third Weds.	7:30pm	Masco Admin. Bldg.	978-887-2323
School Committee	2nd Thurs & Variable	7:30pm	Fuller Meadow School	978-750-1955
Board of Selectmen	Every Tuesday (Jul & Aug every other Tues)	7:30pm	Fuller Meadow School	978-774-3344
Selectmen's Office	Monday - Friday	8:30 - 5:00	Memorial Hall	978-774-3344
Transfer Station	Wednesday, Saturday, Sunday	7:00 - 4:00	Natsue Way	
Town Clerk	Every Tuesday Monday - Thursday Friday	6:00 - 8:00pm 9:00 - 4:00, 9:00 - 1:00	Memorial Hall	978-774-6927
Tri-Town School Union		Variable	Fuller Meadow School	978-750-1955
Tax Collector, Treasurer	Every Tuesday Monday - Friday	6:00 - 8:00pm 8:00 - 4:00	Memorial Hall	978-774-8327 978-774-1867

**1997 - 1998 SENATORS & REPRESENTATIVES
FOR MIDDLETON**

STATE

SENATOR IN GENERAL COURT

FIRST ESSEX &
MIDDLESEX DISTRICT
Senator Bruce E. Tarr
State House
Room 321
Boston, MA 02133
Tel: (617) 722-1600

COUNCILLOR

FIFTH DISTRICT
Councillor Patricia A. Dowling
State House
Room 184
Boston, MA 02133
Tel: (617) 727-2756 x5

**REPRESENTATIVE IN
GENERAL COURT**

TWENTY SECOND
MIDDLESEX DISTRICT
Representative Brian M. Cresta
State House
Room 436
Boston, MA 02133
Tel: (617) 722-2575
or
27 Water Street
Wakefield, MA. 01880
(781) 246-7767

GOVERNOR

The Honorable William Weld
Room 360
Boston, MA 02133
Tel: (617) 727-3600

FEDERAL

REPRESENTATIVE IN CONGRESS

SIXTH DISTRICT
Congressman John F. Tierney
17 Peabody Square
Peabody, MA 01960
Tel: (978) 531-1669
Fax: (978) 531-1996
120 Cannon Building
U.S. House of Representatives
Washington, DC 20515
Tel: (202) 225-8020

UNITED STATES SENATOR

The Honorable Edward M. Kennedy
409 John F. Kennedy Federal Building
Boston, MA 02203
Tel: (617) 565-3170
or
SR-315 Russell Senate Office
Building
Washington, DC 20510
Tel: (202) 224-4543

UNITED STATES SENATOR

The Honorable John F. Kerry
10 Park Plaza
Boston, MA 02116
Tel: (617) 565-8519
or
SR-362 Russell Senate Office
Building
Washington, DC 20510
Tel: (202) 224-2742



TOWN OFFICIALS APPOINTED - 1998

TOWN ADMINISTRATOR

Ira S. Singer.....2000

TOWN ACCOUNTANT CUSTODIAN OF TOWN LANDS

Robert F. Murphy.....1999

TREASURER/COLLECTOR

Charles W. Newhall.....1999

TOWN COUNSEL

Jerome A. Segal.....1999

ASSESSOR

Christopher M. Bova.....1999

CHIEF OF THE FIRE DEPARTMENT FOREST WARDEN

ASSISTANT EMERGENCY MGT. DIR.

Henry Michalski, Jr.

EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT DIRECTOR

George W. Nash.....1999

CHIEF OF POLICE

Paul Armitage

INTERIM SUPERINTENDENT OF SCHOOLS

Thomas M. Reis

INSPECTOR OF BUILDINGS ZONING ENFORCEMENT OFFICER FENCE VIEWER

Robert M. Aldenberg.....1999

ALTERNATE BUILDING INSPECTOR

William F. Cashman.....1999

HEALTH AGENT AND SANITARIAN CONSERVATION COMMISSION ADMINISTRATOR

HAZARDOUS WASTE COORDINATOR

Leo J. Cormier.....1999

PLUMBING AND GAS INSPECTOR

William A. Smith.....1999

INSPECTOR OF WIRES

James E. Marshall.....1999

ALTERNATE INSPECTOR OF WIRES

Alfred J. Jones.....1999

TOWN LIBRARIAN

Michele M. Mals

DOG OFFICER ANIMAL CONTROL OFFICER INSPECTOR OF ANIMALS

Elizabeth L. Heckman.....1999

SUPERINTENDENT OF PUBLIC WORKS SUPERINTENDENT OF INSECT PEST CONTROL

Dennis R. Roy.....1999

SUPERINTENDENT OF BURIALS

Florence M. Leary.....1999

VETERAN'S AGENT

George M. Farley.....1999

EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR OF THE MIDDLETON HOUSING AUTHORITY

Kathleen A. Thurston

DIRECTOR OF THE COUNCIL ON AGING

Lindsey D. Snavely.....1999

**MIDDLETON ELECTRIC LIGHT
DEPARTMENT MANAGER**

Mark Kelley

**NORTH SHORE REGIONAL VOCATIONAL
SCHOOL DISTRICT REPRESENTATIVE**
Roger E. Drysdale.....2001

**REPRESENTATIVE TO THE
METROPOLITAN AREA PLANNING COUNCIL
ESSEX COUNTY BUDGET ADVISORY
BOARD REPRESENTATIVE**
Richard W. Kassiotis

**REPRESENTATIVE TO THE IPSWICH
RIVER WATERSHED DISTRICT
ADVISORY BOARD**
William Mugford.....1999

**REPRESENTATIVE TO THE BOXFORD
STATE FOREST ADVISORY BOARD**
Matthew W. Pride

**REPRESENTATIVE TO THE HAROLD
PARKER STATE FOREST
ADVISORY BOARD**
Warren A. Haas, Jr.

BOARD OF HEALTH

Dr. Robert R. Nersasian	1999
Mary Jane Morrin	1999
Dr. Jay R. Afrow	2000
Niranjan Patel	2001
Dale P. Buckley	2001



FINANCE COMMITTEE

Jill Mann	1999
Antonio Pascuccio	2000
Steven A. Cocciardi	2001
Kim Clauss	2001
Robert Twombly	2001
Robert Porteous	2001



BOARD OF APPEALS

Lynn Murphy (alt.)	1999
Ann Tragert Cote (alt.)	1999
Linda Parker (alt.)	1999
Stuart H. Lord, Jr.	1999
Jeffrey D. Schreiber	2000
Roger E. Drysdale	2001
Jack Leitner	2002



REGISTRARS OF VOTERS

Karen Gerrior	1999
Mary C. Hocter	2000
Nancy L. Karolides	2001
Sarah B. George	(Ex Officio)



CONSERVATION COMMISSION

Leonard W. Kupreance	1999
Glenn A. Bambury	1999
Warren A. Haas, Jr.	2000
Sally MacDonald	2001
Gertrude M. Dearborn	2001



**CONSERVATION COMMISSION
CONSULTANT**

W. Pike Messenger	1999
-------------------	------

ARTS COUNCIL

Natalie Semenza	1999
Frances Novakowski	1999
Kenneth F. Lewis	1999
Becky Rodham	1999
Kathleen Miksis	1999
Katharine Brown	1999
Elizabeth Wetmore	2000
Christopher Reardon	2000



COUNCIL ON AGING

Edith L. Crowley (alt.)	1999
Peggy Sinrich (alt.)	1999
Marion C. Watson (alt.)	1999
Mary Hamilton	1999
Josephine R. Leary	2000
Dorothea Faulkner	2000
Dorothy A. Ferreira	2000
Kathryn N. Martinuk	2000
Olga Michalchuk	2000
Ethel E. Lee	2001
Hazel M. Proctor	2001
Mary C. Hocter	2002
Susan J. Gannon-Moore	2003



SOLID WASTE STUDY

TOWN RECYCLING COMMITTEE

Leo J. Cormier	2000
Dennis R. Roy	2000
Nancy M. Jones	2000
Mary Jane Morrin	2000
Robert E. Kelley	2000
Donna Bambury	2000
Glenn S. Bambury	2000
Robert Porteous	2000
Ira S. Singer	2000
Charles Newhall	2000
Dr. Robert Nersasian	2000



RECREATION COMMISSION

William Mugford (alt.)	1999
Christopher Goncalo (alt.)	1999
Janet Thwing	1999
Gary L'Abbe	1999
Michele Nowak	2000
Priscilla C. Neal	2000
Louis Fedullo	2000



SCHOLARSHIP COMMITTEE

Alice Tierney	2000
Linda M. Levesque	2001
Mary C. Hocter	2001
Shirley A. Murphy	2001
Donna J. Butler	2001



HISTORICAL COMMISSION

Robert W. Fox	1999
Lorne C. Davis	2000
William Mugford	2000
John Goodwin	2001
Mary T. Tragert	2001



HOUSING PARTNERSHIP COMMITTEE

Kathleen A. Thurston (Ex Officio)	
Ira S. Singer (Ex Officio)	
Linda M. Levesque	2000
Paul J. Clauss	2000
Elizabeth Lampes	2000
Faith Anderson Stone	2001
Ronald S. Twing	2001



MEMORIAL DAY COMMITTEE

Mary C. Hocter
Donna Innis
George A. LeMay
M. Alice Peters
Theodore Butler



DANVERS STATE HOSPITAL REUSE PLANNING COMMITTEE

Richard Kassiotis – Selectmen's Rep.
George E. Dow, Sr. – Planning Board Rep.

JAIL LIAISON COMMITTEE

Linda Levesque, Citizen-at-large	1999
Henry P. Beauparlant, Neighborhood Rep.	1999
Robert Porteous, Fin. Com. Rep.	1999
Joseph Pascucci, Selectman	1999
Paul Armitage, Police Chief	2001
Henry Michalski, Fire Chief	2001
Lisa Curran, Neighborhood Rep.	2001
Ira S. Singer, Town Administrator	2001
John A. Goodwin, Citizen-at-large	2001

CABLE ADVISORY COMMITTEE

Louis J. Fedullo	1999
Richard W. Kassiotis	1999
Stuart H. Lord, Jr.	1999
Paul A. Pellicelli	1999
Ira S. Singer	1999
Robert D. Twombly	1999
James M. Fortunato	1999
Alfonso Longo	1999
Les Taylor	1999
Gimmie Sue Valacer	1999



WATER ADVISORY COMMITTEE

Henry Michalski, Jr., Fire Chief
Ira S. Singer, Town Administrator
Nancy M. Jones, Selectmen's Rep.
Planning Board Representative
Dennis R. Roy, Superintendent of the DPW
Leo J. Cormier, Health Agent

MASCONOMET SCHOOL BUILDING COMMITTEE



Richard Kassiotis

LIAISON REPRESENTATIVE TO THE SOUTH ESSEX SEWERAGE DISTRICT

Vacancy



TOWN OFFICIALS ELECTED - 1998



MODERATOR

Henry A. Tragert	1999
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TOWN CLERK

Sarah B. George	1999
-----------------	------

SELECTMEN

Richard W. Kassiotis	1999
Nancy M. Jones	2000
William R. Mugford	2000
Mary Jane Morrin	2001
Joseph E. Pascucci	2001

CONSTABLE

Robert M. Aldenberg	2001
---------------------	------

BOARD OF ASSESSORS

Kosta E. Prentakis	1999
Deborah J. Carbone	2000
Patricia A. Ohlson	2001

SCHOOL COMMITTEE

Ellen Borsuk Weitzler *	1999
Paul F. Woodbury, Jr.	1999
Thomas E. Skinner	1999
Gimme Sue Valacer	2000
Joel F. Shamon	2001

* Appointed to fill a vacancy

REGIONAL SCHOOL COMMITTEE

Judy A. Gallerie	1999
Kurt P. Mann	2000
Edward Gronbeck	2000
Susan M. Richardson	2001

PLANNING BOARD

Harry Mathews *	1999
George E. Dow, Sr.	1999
David T. Leary, Sr.	2000
Beverly A. Popielski	2002
Steven M. Weitzler	2003

ELECTRIC LIGHT COMMISSIONERS

Alfred J. Jones	1999
A. David Lenzie	1999
Richard W. Kassiotis	2000
Frank Twiss	2000
Charles S. Clinch III	2001

LIBRARY TRUSTEES

Leonard A. Stone	1999
Marion B. Gilman	1999
Lois Lane Gianni	2000
Brenda J. Kirwan	2000
Theodore L. Novakowski	2001

HOUSING AUTHORITY

Charles M. Collier	1999
Faith Anderson Stone	2000
James Hannon (state appointed)	2000
Mary Jane Morrin	2001
Paul J. Clauss	2002

Board of Selectmen and Town Administrator 1998 Annual Report

I am pleased to submit my seventeenth annual report on behalf of the Board of Selectmen. This report will provide a brief summary of the important town government activities and events during the fiscal year from July 1, 1997 to June 30, 1998. Details of the department and committee functions are contained in the reports that follow.

Moderately paced residential building has carried into Fiscal 1998, although by the end of this fiscal year, (June 30, 1998), signs of a slowdown were evident. With few new subdivisions and a healthy building market, existing lots are quickly sold and developed. Through the first six months of Fiscal 1999, new housing starts slowed to eighteen. It remains a challenge for all town departments involved in these matters to keep up with every day duties and provide quality services while trying to properly monitor and oversee installation of public improvements.

Public and private improvements occurring simultaneously included construction of:

1. Several new public roads and water lines and more than 72 homes
2. A new baseball field behind Fuller Meadow School and adjoining playground
3. A large swap (recycling) shop at the Transfer Station
4. Two new soccer fields at the Transfer Station



5. Two commercial strip developments and several new retail stores and professional offices
6. A full depth reconstruction of Maple Street from the Danvers Town Line to Kenney Road, which is nearly complete
7. Large expansion of underground parking garage for Bell Atlantic's Yellow Pages Headquarters
8. A continuation of the modernization and expansion of Bostik Corporation's World Headquarters

The population of Middleton is rapidly heading toward 7,000 and could reach that level as we enter the 21st century. While many of the new neighborhoods are attractive and well laid out and add much to the changing character of Middleton, the Town will be struggling to keep up with the demands and needs of a growing population. The 1980 federal census recorded only 4173 residents, and by the year 2000 town government will be required to meet the needs of a population 65% larger than it was only twenty years earlier.

Traffic congestion is spreading throughout the Town to the most outlying streets, and environmental impacts of such wide scale development are becoming increasingly difficult to manage.

Although the 1997 Annual Town Meeting defeated a bylaw to place restrictions on residential growth (by a few votes of the 2/3 majority required), the new Growth Study Committee has begun an update of the Town's Master Plan. A sentiment most often heard is that the Town must proactively plan for its future while choices relating to future development still exist.

FINANCIAL CONDITION AND TOWN DEMOGRAPHICS

The financial condition and strength of a town government in Massachusetts is commonly measured by criterion such as: level of free cash, indebtedness, property values, composition of job and tax base, local tax rate, extent and quality of municipal services, especially schools.

Free Cash and Indebtedness

The Town's free cash was certified at a record high \$1,485,820 as of July 1, 1998, slightly more than the previous year. This surplus and other financial management practices have contributed to an excellent Double (AA) Wall Street Bond. This high rating represents a strong vote of confidence in the overall fiscal strength of the Town of Middleton.

Indebtedness has increased with the school addition and landfill capping expenses, but at year-end was less than 35% of the total debt service allowed by law, with 13% of the total paid from water and electric rates.

Tax Rate

The fiscal year 1999 tax rate of \$14.48 **decreased** by 4.5% from the previous year's rate of \$15.18, although an average tax bill increased approximately 6.4% with higher property assessments and a substantial increase in property taxes raised to support our growing services and schools. The Selectmen voted not to assign a higher tax rate to business and industry in order to attract commercial development to help offset the costs associated with rapid residential growth.

Middleton's tax rate still compares quite favorably to the region and our neighboring communities as the table below demonstrates.

Community Fiscal Year 1999 Tax Rate

<i>Community</i>	<i>Residential Rate</i>	<i>Commercial Rate</i>	<i>% Higher or Lower Than Middleton</i>
Middleton	\$ 14.48	\$ 14.48	
Topsfield	\$ 15.26	\$ 15.26	5 % Higher
Danvers	\$ 15.55	\$ 17.95	16 % Higher *
North Reading	\$ 16.25	\$ 16.25	12 % Higher
Salem	\$ 15.17	\$ 33.69	69 % Higher *
Beverly	\$ 15.22	\$ 24.73	38 % Higher *
Peabody	\$ 10.30	\$ 19.25	2 % Higher *
North Andover	\$ 14.10	\$ 16.75	7 % Higher *
Hamilton	\$ 15.95	\$ 15.95	10 % Higher
Boxford	\$ 15.04	\$ 15.04	4 % Higher

- *In the case of a split tax rate, the average of the two rates was used to calculate this percentage difference.*

Job Base, Economic Development and Property Values

The job base remains strong and diversified, and with some growth. The Town's largest manufacturer, Bostik Inc., has purchased a number of smaller firms and continues to add to their plant and employment base at their World Headquarters facility on Boston Street. Other smaller retail plazas have sprouted up along the South Main Street corridor with one on North Main Street and a couple more planned for the Howe Station intersection.

The unemployment rate is consistently at or below the State average, varying between 3 and 3.5% over the year. The combined values of all property in FY 1998 increased from \$533,624,756 to \$565,582,737. Ninety percent (90%) of this increase came from residential growth.

The lack of suitably zoned sites for commercial and industrial development will severely limit such growth. For example, of the 139 acres of business and industrially zoned undeveloped and under-developed land from the Danvers Town line to Richardson's Dairy, **more than 85% of this land** is restricted from development by the new Rivers Protection Act. This seemingly developable land abuts, or is in close proximity to, the Ipswich River. The few parcels, which may be suitable for commercial development, are quite small (less than 6 acres) and many of these are not available for development or for sale.

If the Town hopes to restore the balance between residential and commercial growth, it must change zoning to provide locations that are more suitable for business development.

Recent studies have affirmed the fact that it costs the Town only about fifty cents of every dollar businesses pay in taxes to provide them municipal services. This is simply because businesses do not send children into local schools at a per pupil cost of more than \$5,500.

PUBLIC IMPROVEMENTS

Much like last year, many important construction projects are under way or proceeding towards final design. Here are the largest ones.



Essex/Forest/North Main Street Signals and Intersection Reconstruction

The Massachusetts Highway Department has approved the final design plans for signaling and reconstructing this dangerous intersection. The next step before bidding and construction are the three or four property conveyances to provide sufficient publicly owned land on which to build the new sidewalks. State and federal grant funds will pay for all improvements and property acquisitions. The State's Central Artery Project in Boston has used up much of the federal funding which is normally allocated to begin projects like this one.

Historically, the availability of these funds has taken one to three years after design plans are completed. Town officials are lobbying their state legislators to bring these funds to Middleton as soon as possible. Although warrants were **not** met for an additional traffic signal at the Oak Knoll Housing entrance, the delays resulting from new signals at Forest Street will create a gap in traffic for these residents to use in exiting their property.

The Town's design engineering firm, Louis Berger Inc. has met with many of the abutters to explain some of the impacts on their property.

***Maple Street Reconstruction
(Part 1 from Kenney Road
to Danvers Town line)***

The State Highway Department awarded this project to Tropeano Inc., with construction beginning in the spring of 1997. Almost two million dollars in state and federal grant funding has installed new drainage, sidewalks, granite curbing, and roadways along Maple Street, from the Danvers Town line to Kenney Road. At the Howe Station intersection, a distinct new "village" look will be created with traffic safety signals, the relocation of utility lines underground, and the erection of colonial style street lights very similar to improvements made in Middleton Square.

It bears repeating that much of the major aesthetic and safety improvements to be made at Howe Station are a result of the cooperative and diligent efforts of the Town's Light Department. Seven large unattractive utility poles will be removed and the huge jumble of overhead wires carrying telephone, cable, electric and fire alarm signals will be removed at nominal expense to electric customers. Much of the cost will be picked up by the federal grants through an allowance for pole relocation, although MELD's Commissioners have allocated significant additional funds to finish this job.

Several new small commercial developments at the Howe Station Intersection have applied to the boards for permits. From what we have seen from these permit applications, the proposed developments will solidify the new village look of this intersection with a number of additional retail shops and buildings. Middleton will soon have another attractive business area offering a greater variety of shopping and services to the neighborhoods and commuters of this area.



***Maple Street Reconstruction
(Part 2 from Kenney Road
to Middleton Square)***

After receiving initial approvals from the State Highway Department, the 1996 Town Meeting authorized Middleton's share, (engineering and design funds), of undertaking improvements similar to the adjoining section of Maple Street currently under construction. Design plans are nearing completion, which call for reconstruction with granite curbing, new sidewalks and drainage on Middleton's second busiest thoroughfare. Unfortunately, this project is also dependent upon the release of state and federal highway funds before construction can begin and is competing with the giant Central Artery Project for dollars.

***Transfer Station and
Soccer Field Construction***

The Solid Waste Study Committee has overseen the completion of a state-of-the-art trash transfer station, which offers maximum opportunities for recycling of a large variety of commodities. Coupled with a 15-year contract between the Town and Odgen Martin System Inc. for trash to be hauled to its burn plant in Haverhill, homeowners will have a safe, clean, cost effective and flexible disposal area for their trash and recycling well into the 21st century.

This Committee and the Department of Public Works, with the assistance of the North Shore Technical School, constructed a large swap shop. Many more commodities are now recycled decreasing the amount of waste hauled to the burn plant.

As 1998 came to an end, one soccer field next to the capped landfill was completed and a second larger regulation size field will be finished by June and playable in the fall of 1999. Bleachers were donated by the Danvers Savings Bank and field irrigation systems will be installed to preserve the investment made in these important new athletic facilities.

Ipswich River Bridge Over Boston Street

This 1935 structure is scheduled for replacement through another State Bridges Grant Program. The Massachusetts Highway Department is overseeing design and construction of what is referred to as "a foot print bridge replacement". Construction may begin in 1999 or 2000. No widening or significant shift in Boston Street is expected during this roadwork.

River Street Reconstruction

Through the good efforts of State Representative Brian Cresta and Senator Bruce Tarr, the Town will receive a grant to help fund the reconstruction of River Street and the access road to the Transfer Station. Because of a very narrow right-of-way width owned by the Town, the River Street Committee has had difficulties in finalizing their recommendations for this work.

Most town roads were laid out as 40 to 50 foot right-of-ways, although River Street is less than 35 feet wide. This makes it impossible to plan and build many safety improvements such as new sidewalks, since the Town would have to take several dozen parcels by eminent domain before construction design can begin.

The Selectmen have authorized a phased construction approach in order to restore the driving surface of River Street, while working on a long term strategy for the other safety improvements that are desired by the neighborhoods.

Fuller Meadow School Renovation and Addition

The State School Building Assistance Bureau has approved this project for reimbursement in the amount of \$296,813 per year, with the first payment to be made in FY 1999. As this is one year sooner than anticipated, it will help to offset the expected debt service costs of Masconomet's expansion.

Masconomet Regional School Expansion and Renovation

The Masconomet Regional School District has begun the long and arduous task of the comprehensive renovation and expansion of their physical plant. A series of Town Meetings and Elections in 1997 resulted in the three towns voting approval of \$3,000,000 in design funds. The 22 member Building Committee has selected an architectural firm (ARC Inc.) from Cambridge to begin the design work. It is expected that construction plans and funding for this \$48-54 million dollar project will be requested at the 1999 Annual Town Meetings.

The debt service for the design funds was included in this year's tax rate at a level that will equal the cost of the building construction and renovations. This essentially means that the taxpayers have begun paying the costs of the expansion project. Following the construction of the new high school and renovations to convert the high school into the junior high, this debt service will not cause a further increase to the tax rate. Of course, this does not include additional costs associated with operating, staffing and maintaining the new schools.

Other Administrative Business

The Board of Selectmen held and attended bi-weekly meetings to approve the weekly bills, resolve citizen complaints, conduct license and permit hearings, and review and formulate the municipal budget and all policy matters. In addition, joint meetings were held with the Finance Committee, School Committee, Master Plan and Growth Committee, Conservation Commission, Board of Health, and Solid Waste Advisory Committee to work on issues of mutual concern and interest.

The Selectmen also met with the Danvers Selectmen and Water Commissioners and formed a task force to study water supply and quality issues.

After seven years of impasse, the Towns of Middleton and Danvers renewed the water contract providing for a continuous flow of revenue to Middleton for its water related debt service.

This revenue also funds the increasing operations of the Water Division within the Department of Public Works. New federal mandates will require the Town to adopt strict cross connection control regulations to prevent contamination of the public water supply from industrial and commercial connections.

Representatives of the Selectmen attended meetings of, and participated in, the Water Advisory Committee, Cable Advisory Committee, Essex County Selectmen's Association, Masconomet School Building Committee, Danvers State Hospital Task Force, County Budget Advisory Board, Fire Station and Library Study Committee, and Jail Liaison Committee.

In addition to the above, some of the most time consuming and noteworthy activities of the Board of Selectmen and the Town Administrator during the year included:

- Holding numerous special meetings to review the Fiscal Year 1999 Budget and Capital Improvement Plan, including an "all day" Saturday session to closely examine operating budgets.
- Administering the sixth year of a \$13,500 Essex Home Consortium Grant of federal funds. This program awards loans to low and moderate income homeowners to make life safety code repairs to their properties.
- Applying for and received a \$200,000 State Grant from the Department of Environmental Protection for loans to repair and bring failing septic systems into Title V compliance. This program was supposed to be available to homeowners in the summer of 1998, but was delayed by the State DEP. Funds should be dispersed beginning in the summer of 1999.
- Attending meetings of the Essex County Selectmen's Association. The interaction with area Selectmen allows Board members to compare neighboring communities' services and policies.
- Meeting with State Representative Brian Cresta and State Senator Bruce Tarr to support legislation in the best interest of the Town. Both individuals continue to show great interest in our community and have been extremely responsive to Middleton's needs and issues.
- Negotiating collective bargaining contracts for labor unions, striking a balance between paying Middleton's hardworking and productive employees' fair and affordable wages, and not burdening taxpayers with excessive settlement costs.
- Meeting with the Massachusetts Highway Department when they held a Public Hearing on the design of the North Main Street Reconstruction Project with abutting property owners.
- Meeting with East Street neighbors and Michael Leon, Superior Court appointed Receiver of the Rubchinuk Landfill, to hear plans for closure and capping.
- Paying tribute to retiring Police Officer Henry Bouchard for 29 years of outstanding community service.
- Authorizing and administering a study of "Hocter Park" to determine this nine acre parcel's capacity to be developed into a new recreational park. (It is behind Fuller Pond and Brigadoon).
- Receiving a bond rating of "AA" from Wall Street's Moody's Investors Rating Service, and in August of 1997, the sale of \$3,080,000 of school and general town obligation bonds to State Street Bank and Associates. This was done through a bond bidding process at an interest rate of 4.7 %.

- Holding a few hearings for possible revocations of liquor and used car licenses for licensees who appeared to be in non-compliance with license conditions.
- Working closely with the Cable Advisory Committee to negotiate and sign a ten-year extension of the Cable Television Franchise License to MediaOne. This license will provide Middleton consumers with state of the art cable services and a new highly automated studio for public, educational and governmental programming, located at the Fuller Meadow School. There will also be a greater variety of local board cablecasts.
- Initiating the process for a second possible Cable Television License to be granted to RCN Corporation.
- Interviewing and selecting five new reserve police officers, bringing the ranks of uniformed members of the Police Department's Reserve Force to twelve.
- Appointing Officer Gayle Haley as the Police Department's third Sergeant and the Town's first female Command Officer.
- Authorizing a structural study to be completed on the condition of the concrete slab of the Fire Department's apparatus room floor. The purpose being to take necessary measures to insure safe conditions for firefighters and the Town's fire apparatus.
- Authorizing a joint feasibility study for the Fire Station and the Public Library to examine the needs and opportunities for renovation and expansion.
- Securing a pedestrian bridge from the Massachusetts Highway Department to be installed next to the Ipswich River Bridge on Maple Street, in conjunction with the reconstruction of the second portion of Maple Street.

- Appointing members to a Bandstand Study Committee to recommend an appropriate site for the new bandstand to be donated by the Middleton Kiwanis Club in memory of Norm Nathan.

In Closing...

As I begin my seventeenth year as Town Administrator, I extend my sincere thanks and deep appreciation to the Board of Selectmen, my Administrative Secretary Donna Innis, department heads, employees, committee chairpersons, and residents of Middleton for their support, advice, ideas and good guidance.

It is with sincere sadness that we acknowledge the deaths of four prominent town officials this year. The sudden deaths of long time Selectmen, Assessor and Board of Appeals Member Dick Ajootian and retired Police Chief Edward Richardson last June and the passing of former Town Clerk Bill Martin, and Past American Legion Commander and Memorial Day Chairman Fred Rubchinuk, left a tremendous void in our community. They were extraordinary town servants who represented the finest things about Middleton.

It continues to be a pleasure to work with the many Middleton people who unselfishly contribute so much to the well being of this outstanding community.

Ira S. Singer
Town Administrator

Board of Selectmen

Richard W. Kassiotis, Chairman
Nancy M. Jones
William R. Mugford
Richard O. Ajootian (deceased June 1998)
Mary Jane Morrin (elected May 1998)
Joseph E. Pascucci (elected May 1998)

**TOWN OF MIDDLETON
SPECIAL TOWN MEETING**

July 15, 1997

Adjourned to July 21, 1997

On Tuesday July 15, 1997, qualified voters of the Town of Middleton met at the North Shore Technical High School at 7:30 p.m. In the absence of a quorum, the Moderator entertained a motion to adjourn. It was moved, seconded, and voted unanimously to adjourn the meeting to Tuesday, July 21, 1997, at the North Shore Technical High School gymnasium.

On Tuesday, July 21, 1997, qualified voters of the Town of Middleton met in the North Shore Technical High School. Moderator Henry Tragert called the Meeting to order at 7:45 p.m. and asked that the Town's official week of mourning for Officer Couture be concluded with a moment of silence in respect to his memory.

The Moderator declared that a quorum was present. (It was later shown that 177 voters were checked in.) Town Clerk Sarah George read the return of service of the Warrant showing that the Meeting had been duly called and that the Warrant had been posted at Memorial Hall, the Post Office, Ferncroft Tower, Howe Station Market, and Fuller Pond Village by Constable Robert Aldenberg on June 27, 1997. The articles on the warrant were then disposed of as follows:

Article 1: On petition of the Masconomet Regional School Committee to see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of \$14,486 to add to the Fiscal Year 1998 Masconomet Regional School District Assessment of \$2,230,681 raised at the Annual Town Meeting on May 13, 1997 in Article 6, provided that this appropriation is

contingent upon subsequent approval of a Proposition 2-1/2 Override Ballot Question under General Laws, Chapter 59, Section 21C, or take any other action thereon; and to see if such funds will be raised by taxation; by transfer from available funds, by borrowing or by any combination thereof.

The Finance Committee recommended that no action be taken on Article 1. Because the towns of Boxford and Topsfield have already approved the additional funds for the Masconomet budget, Middleton is legally obligated to pay its share whether or not this Meeting approves it. A motion to adopt Article 1 was made and seconded from the floor. Susan Richardson, of the Masconomet School Committee, spoke in favor of the appropriation. Article 1 was adopted on a voice vote.

Article 2: On petition of the Masconomet Regional School Committee to see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of \$60,919 for the purposes of purchasing, installing, and equipping classroom computers, monitors, and printers, and other technology equipment and wiring incidental thereto for the Masconomet Regional School District for the fiscal year beginning July first nineteen hundred and ninety-seven; provided that said approval shall be contingent upon the passage of a Proposition 2 1/2 referendum under Massachusetts General Laws Chapter 59, Section 21C and to see if such funds will be raised by taxation; by transfer from available funds, by borrowing or by any combination thereof.

The Finance Committee recommended adoption of this article to fund the purchase of equipment necessary to continue the technology program initiated in the elementary schools with the funds to be raised by taxation. Kurt Mann of the Masconomet School Committee spoke in favor of the appropriation. Article 2 was adopted on a unanimous voice vote.

Article 3: On petition of the Middleton School Committee to see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of \$45,750 to fund one half-time Kindergarten and one full-time grade five teaching position required to maintain existing School Committee class size guidelines due to increased elementary enrollments for the fiscal year beginning July first, nineteen hundred and ninety-seven, provided that said approval shall be contingent upon the passage of a Proposition 2-1/2 operating budget referendum under Massachusetts General Laws Chapter 59, Section 21C, and to see if such funds will be raised by taxation; by transfer from available funds, by borrowing or by any combination thereof.

The Finance Committee recommended adoption of Article 3, as they did at the Annual Town Meeting in May, with the funds to be raised by taxation. Doug Mathews of the Elementary School Committee spoke in favor. Article 3 was adopted on a voice vote.

The Moderator reminded the Meeting of the Special Election to vote on these same matters to be held Tuesday, July 22, 1998 from 7:00 a.m. to 8:00 p.m. at the Fuller Meadow School gymnasium. A motion was made and seconded from the floor to dissolve the Meeting, and it was so voted at 8:05 p.m.

Attest, a True Copy,

Sarah B. George
Town Clerk



TOWN OF MIDDLETON SPECIAL TOWN MEETING

November 17, 1997

On Monday, November 17, 1997, qualified voters of the Town of Middleton met at the North Shore Technical High School. The Moderator called the Meeting to order at 7:45 p.m. and declared that a quorum was present. (It was later shown that 175 voters were checked in.) Town Clerk Sarah George read the return of service of the Warrant showing that the Meeting had been duly called and that the Warrant had been posted at Memorial Hall, the Post Office, Ferncroft Tower, Howe Station Market, and Fuller Pond Village by Constable Robert Aldenberg on October 31, 1997. The articles of the Warrant were then disposed of as follows:

Article 1: To hear and act on Committee Reports. The Growth and Master Plan Study Committee and the Cable Advisory Committee reported to the Meeting.

Article 2: On petition of the Board of Selectmen and the Cable Television Advisory Committee to see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of \$10,000 to be used to hire a legal consultant to the Cable Television Advisory Committee and the Board of Selectmen to assist the Town in its negotiations with Media-One Inc. for a cable television license renewal, and to see if such funds will be raised by taxation, by transfer from available funds, by borrowing, or by any combination thereof.

The Finance Committee recommended adoption of Article 2 to provide the Town with the legal expertise to maximize the services and equipment that would be provided to the Town. The Finance Committee recommended that the \$10,000 be taken from Free Cash. The Meeting voted to do so.

Article 3: On petition of the Board of Selectmen and the Police Chief to see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of \$31,000 to pay for the recruiting, training and equipment costs associated with the appointment of new police reserve officers. Said appointments are intended to bring the Police Department's Reserve Officer staffing up to pre-existing levels or above.

The Finance Committee recommended passage of Article 3 to replenish the Reserve force, which has been depleted by recent retirements and promotions within the Department. The article will be funded from Free Cash. Article 3 was adopted by a unanimous voice vote.

Article 4: On petition of the Planning Board to see if the Town will vote to accept Campbell Road as a town street as laid out by the Board of Selectmen under Massachusetts General Laws, Chapter 82, Section 22, and in compliance with the Planning Board's Subdivision Rules and Regulations.

The Finance Committee deferred to the Planning Board for its recommendation. Chairman Beverly Popielski, speaking for the Planning Board, recommended acceptance of Campbell Road. The motion was seconded from the floor, and the Meeting voted unanimously to accept Campbell Road.

Article 5: On petition of the Board of Selectmen to see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of \$20,000 to conduct a feasibility study to determine whether active or passive recreational uses are possible and suitable for the 13-acre parcel of Town owned land known as Hocter Park and seven contiguous acres located behind the Brigadoon and Fuller Pond Condominium Developments. Said study shall include, but not be limited to the preparation of a site plan showing park boundaries, locations of drainage ways, wetlands, topography, adjacent land uses, and the preliminary design and cost estimates of any potential recreational uses.

The Finance Committee did not recommend passage of this article because there are two new soccer fields and one practice field at the Transfer Station, one new baseball and one refurbished baseball field at Fuller Meadow School, and two new baseball fields and one new soccer field at the North Shore Technical High School. Due to these fields coming on line, the Finance Committee saw no urgency in addressing this issue at this time, and felt that it is one which should be addressed at an Annual rather than a Special Town Meeting.

It was moved and seconded from the floor that Article 5 be adopted. Selectman Ajootian recommended that since this is a one-time non-recurring cost that the funds be taken from Free Cash. Ira Singer explained that this feasibility study would include many technical studies, including a topography study, a survey, aerial photos, and a storm water drainage study. After considerable discussion, Article 5 was adopted by the Meeting.

Article 6: On petition of the Superintendent of Public Works and the Solid Waste Advisory Committee to see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of \$7,500 to purchase safety equipment (hydraulic covering system for open-top roll-off containers), for the 1997 Mack truck which hauls the Town's recycled materials including metal, glass, cans, and construction and demolition debris.

The Finance Committee recommended Article 6, explaining that this appropriation addresses a safety issue for DPW workers who currently have to climb up on the container to spread a tarp. The funding source was recommended to be Free Cash. The Meeting voted to adopt Article 6.

Article 7: On petition of the Planning Board to see if the Town will vote to authorize the Board of Selectmen to terminate and abandon the Easement granted to the Town by Jan C. Cush, Trustee of Bayberry Place Realty Trust,

dated July 28, 1995 and recorded with the Essex Southern District Registry of Deeds in Book 13130, Page 229 and to authorize the Board of Selectmen to execute any instruments necessary to accomplish this purpose.

The Finance Committee deferred to the Planning Board. The Planning Board recommended passage of the article and the motion was seconded from the floor. Beverly Popielski, Chairman of the Planning Board, explained that this easement has been replaced with another easement, which is superior to it. The Town no longer needs this easement. The motion to adopt Article 7 carried unanimously.

Article 8: On petition of the Board of Selectmen to see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of \$14,500 to fund amendments to the collective bargaining agreements with the Middleton Call Firefighter's Association, the Middleton Firefighter's Association, and the Middleton Clerical Association relating to the additional duties required from the placement of the 911 Emergency Dispatch Answering Service at the Fire Station, and to see if such funds will be raised by taxation; by transfer from available funds, by borrowing, or by any combination thereof.

The Finance Committee did not recommend Article 8. Selectman Ajootian made a motion that it be adopted, with the \$14,500 to be raised by taxation. The motion was seconded from the floor and carried on a voice vote.

Article 9: On petition of the Masconomet Regional School Committee to see if the Town will vote to approve the indebtedness authorized by the Regional School Committee on October 6, 1997, for the purpose of architectural and engineering and other preliminary expenses for expansion and renovation of district school buildings and facilities, including outdoor athletic facilities and sewerage facilities, provided that said approval shall be contingent upon the passage of a Proposition 2-1/2 debt exclusion

referendum under Massachusetts General Laws Chapter 59, Section 21C, for the amounts required to pay the Town's share of the principal and interest on the borrowing authorized by the District, and if such referendum is not passed, this vote will be deemed to be a disapproval, or take any other action relative thereto.

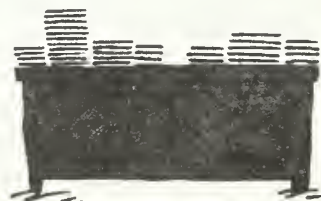
The Finance Committee recommended that the Town approve the \$2,995,000 indebtedness authorized by the Regional District School Committee of the Masconomet School District on October 6, 1997, for the purpose of architectural and engineering services and other preliminary expenses for expansion and renovation of district school buildings and facilities, including outdoor athletic facilities and sewerage facilities; provided, however, that this approval shall be contingent upon the passage of a Proposition 2 1/2 debt exclusion referendum under Massachusetts General Laws Chapter 59, Section 21C, for the amounts required to pay the Town's share of the principal and interest on the borrowing authorized by the District, and if such referendum is not passed, this vote will be deemed to be a disapproval.

After a presentation by Judy Gallerie, a Middleton member of the Masconomet School Committee, and questions and discussion from the floor, the Meeting voted unanimously to adopt Article 9.

A motion was made and seconded from the floor to dissolve the Meeting, and it was so voted at 8:50 p.m.

Attest, a True Copy,

Sarah B. George
Town Clerk



**SPECIAL TOWN ELECTION
TUESDAY, JULY 22, 1997**

The polls were opened at 7:00 AM by Warden Sandra Pollock and remained open until 8:00 PM. There were 3736 registered voters at the close of registration before the election and 699 votes were cast. The results were as follows:

QUESTION 1

Shall the Town of Middleton be allowed to assess an additional \$45,750 in real estate and personal property taxes for the purpose of hiring one half-time kindergarten teacher and one full-time grade five teacher in order to maintain School Committee class size guidelines due to increased elementary enrollments in Middleton's School Department for the fiscal year beginning July first, nineteen hundred and ninety-seven?

Yes.....441
No.....254
Blanks.....4

QUESTION 2

Shall the Town of Middleton be allowed to assess an additional \$14,486 in real estate and personal property taxes for the purpose of partially funding the Town's assessment for the Masconomet Regional School District for the fiscal year beginning July first, nineteen hundred and ninety-seven?

Yes.....417
No.....277
Blanks.....5

QUESTION 3

Shall the Town of Middleton be allowed to assess an additional \$60,919 in real estate and personal property taxes for the purposes of purchasing, installing, and equipping classroom computers,

monitors and printers, and other technology equipment and wiring incidental thereto for the Masconomet Regional School District for the fiscal year beginning July first, nineteen hundred and ninety-seven?

Yes.....429
No.....269
Blanks.....1



**SPECIAL TOWN ELECTION
TUESDAY
NOVEMBER 18, 1997**

The polls were opened at 7:00 AM by Warden Sandra Pollock and remained open until 8:00 PM. There were 3776 registered voters at the close of registration before the election and 684 votes were cast. The results were as follows:

QUESTION 1

Shall the Town of Middleton be allowed to exempt from the provisions of proposition two and one-half, so-called, the amounts required to pay for its apportioned share of the bonds to be issued by the Masconomet Regional School District in order to finance architectural and engineering services and other preliminary expenses for expansion and renovation of district school buildings and facilities, including outdoor athletic facilities and sewerage facilities?

Yes.....465
No.....216
Blanks.....3

TOWN OF MIDDLETON SPECIAL AND ANNUAL TOWN MEETING

MAY 12, 1998

On Tuesday, May 12, 1998, voters of the Town of Middleton met in the North Shore Technical High School Gymnasium. Moderator Henry Tragert called the meeting to order at 7:35 p.m., declaring that a quorum was present. (It was later shown that 316 voters were in attendance.).

Boy Scout Troop 19, directed by Senior Patrol Leader Ian McKenzie, presented the colors and led the Meeting in saluting the flag.

Town Clerk Sarah George read the Return of Service of the Warrant for the Special Town Meeting, showing that the Meeting had been duly called and the Warrant posted in the usual five places by Constable Robert Aldenberg on April 28, 1998.

The one article on the Special Town Meeting Warrant was then disposed of as follows:

ARTICLE 1: On petition of the Middleton School committee and Superintendent of Schools to see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of \$30,228 to provide supplemental funding for unanticipated Special Education expenses in Fiscal Year 1998; and to see if such funds will be raised by taxation; by transfer from available funds, by borrowing or by any combination thereof.

The Finance Committee recommended adoption of Article 1 with the money to be taken from Free Cash. The motion to adopt Article 1 carried.

It was then moved, seconded, and voted to dissolve the Special Town Meeting.



Town Clerk Sarah George read the Return of Service of the Warrant for the Annual Town Meeting, showing that the Meeting had been duly called and the Warrant posted in the usual five places by Constable Robert Aldenberg on April 28, 1998.

The articles on the Annual Town Meeting Warrant were then disposed of as follows:

ARTICLE 1: To hear and act on Committee Reports.

Judy Gallerie of the Masconomet Regional School Committee reported that after the fall Town Meeting they had hired Architectural Resources of Cambridge to complete the design plans. The Committee is now ready for public input, and on Wednesday, May 27th at 7:30 PM in the Masconomet Cafeteria, the architects will present the several design options that they have prepared. Opinion polls will be available that evening and until June 10th at the libraries.

ARTICLE 2: To see if the Town will vote to authorize the Town Treasurer with the approval of the Selectmen to borrow money from time-to-time in anticipation of the revenue of the financial year beginning July 1, 1998, in accordance with the provisions of Massachusetts General Laws, Chapter 44, Section 17.

The Finance Committee recommended adoption of Article 2 to allow the Treasurer, with the approval of the Selectmen, to meet the cash-flow needs of the Town. Article 2 was adopted unanimously.

ARTICLE 3: On petition of the Board of Selectmen acting in the capacity of the Personnel Board to see if the Town will vote to amend the Town Consolidated Personnel Plan SECTION 7.08 as follows:

TOWN OF MIDDLETON

COMPENSATION PLAN for NON-UNION EMPLOYEES for FISCAL YEAR 1999

POSITION / TITLE:	VOTED EFFECTIVE July 1, 1997	PROPOSED July 1, 1998
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Town Officials (Elected)

Town Moderator	\$100/Yr.	\$100/Yr.
Town Constable	\$100/Yr.	\$100/Yr.
Town Clerk	\$33,720/Yr.	\$36,400/Yr.
Selectman-Chairman	\$2,100/Yr.	\$2,100/Yr.
Selectman	\$1,600/Yr.	\$1,600/Yr.
School Committee-Chairman	\$750/Yr.	\$750/Yr.
School Committee	\$600/Yr.	\$600/Yr.
Assessor (each Member) *	\$2,000/Yr.	\$2,000/Yr.

- Range of \$500 - \$2,000 Depending upon education/training

Town Officials Appointees (and Non-Union Employees)

Custodian	\$8.42/Hr.	\$8.68/Hr.
Census Workers	\$1,050/Yr.	\$1,050/Yr.
Poll Workers – Officers	\$7.57/Hr.	\$7.80/Hr.
Superintendent of Burials	\$400/Yr.	\$400/Yr.
Registrar of Voters	\$95/Election	\$95/Election
Clerk-Registrar of Voters	\$175/Yr.	\$175/Yr.

Part Time Clerical Staff: (All Departments)

Step I	\$10.58/Hr.	\$10.93/Hr.
Step II	\$11.29/Hr.	\$11.63/Hr.
Step III	\$11.82/Hr.	\$12.17/Hr.
Step IV	\$12.23/Hr.	\$12.60/Hr.
Step V	\$12.43/Hr.	\$12.80/Hr.

POSITION / TITLE:	VOTED EFFECTIVE July 1, 1997	PROPOSED July 1, 1998
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Town Officials Appointees (and Non-Union Employees)

Secretaries For All Town Board meetings	\$80.00/Meeting	\$83.00/Meeting
Cable Television Technician	\$8.44/Hr.	\$8.70/Hr.

Finance and Administration

Town Administrator	\$60,457/Yr.	\$62,271/Yr.
FY 99 Range of \$57,680/Yr. - \$62,930/Yr.		
Administrative Secretary	\$31,000/Yr.	\$31,930/Yr.
FY 99 Range of \$27,810/Yr. - \$31,930/Yr.		
Town Accountant	\$42,139/Yr.	\$43,403/Yr.
FY 99 Range of \$40,170/Yr. - \$43,403/Yr.		
Custodian of Town Lands	\$1,500/Yr.	\$1,500/Yr.
Treasurer/Collector	\$40,184/Yr.	\$41,390/Yr.
FY 99 Range of \$37,132/Yr. - \$41,390/Yr.		
Town Counsel	\$12,200/Yr.	\$12,566/Yr.
Assessor/Appraiser	\$38,625/Yr.	\$39,784/Yr.
FY 99 Range of \$37,132/Yr. - \$42,500/Yr.		

Health and Human Services Departments

Health Department

Health Agent	\$42,780/Yr.	\$44,063/Yr.
FY 99 Range of \$40,747./Yr. - \$44,063/Yr.		

Veteran's Services

Veteran's Agent	\$7,120/Yr.	\$7,334/Yr.
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POSITION / TITLE:	VOTED EFFECTIVE July 1, 1997	PROPOSED July 1, 1998
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Health and Human Services Departments

Council On Aging

Council On Aging Director	\$9,866/Yr.	\$10,162/Yr.
FY 99 Range of \$8,442/Yr. - \$10,162/ Yr.		
Meal Site Coordinator	\$8.76/Hr.	\$9.03/Hr.
Council On Aging Driver	\$10.59/Hr.	\$10.91/Hr.
Medical Transportation Drivers	\$6.72/Hr.	\$6.93/Hr.
Janitor	\$8.17/Hr.	\$8.42/Hr.

Public Safety

Animal Control Officer	\$11,878/Yr.	\$12,235/Yr.
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Fire Department - Stipends

Drillmaster	\$100/Yr.	\$100/Yr.
Mechanic	\$520/Yr.	\$520/Yr.
Fire Prevention Officer	\$520/Yr.	\$520/Yr.

Public Safety – These positions are included for informational purposes only, as the salaries are established by other statutes.

Police Chief	\$63,000/Yr.	\$66,000/Yr.*
Fire Chief	\$58,676/Yr.	\$62,664/Yr.*

* The above salaries include some cash payments for education incentives, longevity and other cash benefits.

Department of Public Works

Superintendent of Public Works	\$54,744/Yr.	\$56,767/Yr.*
FY 99 Range of \$49,417/Yr. - \$56,767/Yr.		

- \$4,500 of this salary is funded from Water Enterprise Fund for management responsibilities.

POSITION / TITLE:	VOTED EFFECTIVE July 1, 1997	PROPOSED July 1, 1998
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Public Safety

Department of Public Works

DPW Foreman	\$15.63/Hr.	\$16.10/Hr.
Water System Foreman	\$13.67/Hr.	\$14.87/Hr.
FY 99 Range of \$14.87/Hr. - \$17.07/Hr.		
Emergency Call Wages	\$115.00/Wk.	\$120.00/Wk.
CDL Plow/Sander Operator	\$15.45/Hr.	\$15.92/Hr.
Part Time Truck Driver	\$9.02/Hr.	\$9.29/Hr.
Part Time Laborer	\$7.65/Hr.	\$7.88/Hr.
Transfer Station Gate Attendant	\$9.32/Hr.	\$9.60/Hr.

Inspections Department

Building Inspector	\$43,537/Yr.	\$44,844/Yr.
FY 99 Range of \$37,096/Yr. - \$44,844/Yr.		
Gas/Plumbing Inspector	\$6,612/Yr.	\$7,604/Yr.
Wiring Inspector	\$9,400/Yr.	\$10,340/Yr.
Alternate Inspectors:	\$16.54/Hr.	\$17.04/Hr.
Wiring, Health, and Building		

Flint Public Library

Library Director	\$35,000/Yr.	\$34,505/Yr.
FY 99 Range of \$32,960/Yr. - \$36,050/Yr.		
Assistant Director		
Step 1	\$10.32/Hr.	\$11.04/Hr.
Step 2 (6 months)	\$11.02/Hr.	\$11.79/Hr.
Step 3 (18 months)	\$11.67/Hr.	\$12.49/Hr.
Step 4 (30 months)	\$12.09/Hr.	\$12.94/Hr.
Step 5 (54 months)	\$12.32/Hr.	\$13.19/Hr.

POSITION / TITLE:	VOTED EFFECTIVE July 1, 1997	PROPOSED July 1, 1998
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Flint Public Library

Adult Services Librarian

Children's Librarian

Reference Librarian

Step 1	\$10.00/Hr.	\$10.93/Hr.
Step 2 (6 months)	\$10.69/Hr.	\$11.63/Hr.
Step 3 (18 months)	\$11.24/Hr.	\$12.17/Hr.
Step 4 (30 months)	\$11.63/Hr.	\$12.60/Hr.
Step 5 (54 months)	\$11.86/Hr.	\$12.80/Hr.
Clerk/Typist	\$7.00/Hr.	\$7.00/Hr.
Pages	\$5.75/Hr.	\$6.00/Hr.
Janitor	\$6,567/Yr.	\$6,567/Yr.

Recreation Commission

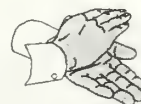
Summer Recreation Programs

Program Director	\$12.88/Hr.	\$13.27/Hr.
Program Assistant	\$9.04/Hr.	\$9.32/Hr.
Recreation Assistants	\$6.14/Hr.	\$6.33/Hr.

The Finance Committee recommended passage of Article 3 to establish the rate of compensation for non-union employees, and, after some discussion, it was adopted.

ARTICLE 4: On petition of the Board of Selectmen to see if the Town will vote to fix the compensation of elected officers; to determine whether any Town Board shall be authorized to employ for additional salary or compensation any of its members; provide for a reserve fund; and to determine what sums of money the Town will raise and appropriate, including appropriation from interest for the ensuing twelve months. The following pages constitute the detail of this article.

The Finance Committee recommended this article. This article provides funding for the Town's Operating Budget including expenses for contractual services, supplies, and small capital improvements, and Town employees' salaries and wages.



NUMBER		Approved FY 97	Approved FY 98	Department Request FY 99	Selectmen & Fin/Com 1999 Recommend
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FUND: 01 GENERAL FUND

FUNCTION 100: GENERAL GOVERNMENT

Department #114 TOWN MODERATOR

5100	Personal Services	100	100	100	\$100
DEPARTMENT TOTAL		\$100	\$100	\$100	\$100

Department #122 SELECTMEN/ADMINISTRATOR

5100	Personal Services	97,547	102,457	105,201	105,201
5200	Purchase of Services	17,050	17,150	17,150	17,150
5400	Purchase of Supplies	1,400	1,700	1,800	1,800
5700	Other Charges & Expenses	31,618	32,428	33,294	33,294
DEPARTMENT TOTAL		\$147,615	\$153,735	\$157,445	\$157,445

Department #131 FINANCE COMMITTEE

5100	Personal Services	924	948	996	996
5200	Purchase of Services	115	115	115	115
5400	Purchase of Supplies	100	100	100	100
5700	Other Charges & Expenses	40,150	40,150	40,150	40,150
DEPARTMENT TOTAL		\$41,289	\$41,313	\$41,361	\$41,361

Department #135 TOWN ACCOUNTANT

5100	Personal Services	50,746	55,066	59,377	59,377
5200	Purchase of Services	2,270	2,270	2,270	2,270
5400	Purchase of Supplies	600	600	600	600
5700	Other Charges & Expenses	225	225	245	245
				150	150
5800	Capital Outlay	150	150		
DEPARTMENT TOTAL		\$53,991	\$58,311	\$62,642	\$62,642

Department #141 ASSESSORS

5100	Personal Services	76,555	72,379	74,308	74,308
5200	Purchase of Services	8,060	11,510	11,760	11,760
5400	Purchase of Supplies	1,350	1,550	1,550	1,550
5700	Other Charges & Expenses	2,300	2,300	2,825	2,825
5800	Capital Outlay				
DEPARTMENT TOTAL		\$88,265	\$87,739	\$90,443	\$90,443

NUMBER		Approved FY 97	Approved FY 98	Department Request FY 99	Selectmen & Fin/Com 1999 Recommend
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FUND: 01 GENERAL FUND

FUNCTION 100: GENERAL GOVERNMENT

Department #145 TREASURER/COLLECTOR

5100	Personal Services	89,779	93,907	97,261	97,261
5200	Purchase of Services	12,300	12,900	14,300	14,300
5400	Purchase of Supplies	2,750	3,000	3,250	3,250
5700	Other Charges & Expenses	425	425	425	425
5800	Capital Outlay	700	700	1,200	1,200

DEPARTMENT TOTAL		\$105,954	\$110,932	\$116,436	\$116,436
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Department #146 CUSTODIAN OF TOWN LANDS

5100	Personal Services	1,500	1,500	1,500	1,500
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DEPARTMENT TOTAL		\$1,500	\$1,500	\$1,500	\$1,500
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Department #151 TOWN COUNSEL

5100	Personal Services	11,845	12,200	12,566	12,566
5200	Purchase of Services	8,500	9,000	9,500	9,500

DEPARTMENT TOTAL		\$20,345	\$21,200	\$22,066	\$22,066
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Department #152 PERSONNEL BOARD

5100	Personal Services	616	650	\$1,000	\$1,000
5200	Purchase of Services				
5400	Purchase of Supplies	80	80	0	0
5700	Other Charges & Expenses	20	20	0	0

DEPARTMENT TOTAL		\$716	\$750	\$1,000	\$1,000
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Department #161 TOWN CLERK

5100	Personal Services	41,583	50,512	53,706	53,706
5200	Purchase of Services	2,200	2,200	2,200	2,200
5400	Purchase of Supplies	850	850	850	850
5700	Other Charges & Expenses	400	400	400	400
5800	Capital Outlay	1,500	0	0	0

DEPARTMENT TOTAL		\$46,533	\$53,962	\$57,156	\$57,156
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NUMBER		Approved FY 97	Approved FY 98	Department Request FY 99	Selectmen & Fin/Com 1999 Recommend
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FUND: 01 GENERAL FUND

FUNCTION 100: GENERAL GOVERNMENT

Department #162 ELECTIONS/ REGISTRATIONS

5100	Personal Services	7,755	5,455	8,515	8,515
5200	Purchase of Services	4,775	3,645	4,280	4,280
5400	Purchase of Supplies	550	350	550	550
5800	Capital Outlay	0	1,500	0	0

DEPARTMENT TOTAL		\$13,080	\$10,950	\$13,345	\$13,345
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Department #171 CONSERVATION COMMISSION

5100	Personal Services	3,425	2,940	3,125	3,125
5200	Purchase of Services	900	900	900	900
5400	Purchase of Supplies	200	200	300	300
5700	Other Charges & Expenses	450	450	450	450

DEPARTMENT TOTAL		\$4,975	\$4,490	\$4,775	\$4,775
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Department #175 PLANNING BOARD

5100	Personal Services	10,219	10,736	13,060	13,060
5200	Purchase of Services	2,350	2,350	2,600	2,600
5400	Purchase of Supplies	500	500	500	500
5700	Other Charges & Expenses	915	915	915	915

DEPARTMENT TOTAL		\$13,984	\$14,501	\$17,075	\$17,075
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Department #176 BOARD OF APPEALS

5100	Personal Services	7,685	8,070	10,315	10,315
5200	Purchase of Services	2,800	2,800	3,400	3,400
5400	Purchase of Supplies	200	200	200	200
5700	Other Charges & Expenses	60	60	60	60

DEPARTMENT TOTAL		\$10,745	\$11,130	\$13,975	\$13,975
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Department #181 INDUSTRIAL DEVELOPMENT

5200	Purchase of Services	100	100	100	100
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DEPARTMENT TOTAL		\$100	\$100	\$100	\$100
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NUMBER		Approved FY 97	Approved FY 98	Department Request FY 99	Selectmen & Fin/Com 1999 Recommend
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FUND: 01 GENERAL FUND

FUNCTION 100: GENERAL GOVERNMENT

Department # 192 TOWN BUILDINGS

5100	Personal Services	4,600	4,600	4,900	4,900
5200	Purchase of Services	25,950	25,950	25,950	25,950
5400	Purchase of Supplies	6,100	6,100	6,100	6,100
5800	Capital Outlay	600	600	600	600

DEPARTMENT TOTAL		\$37,250	\$37,250	\$37,550	\$37,550
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FUNCTION 100

TOTAL GENERAL GOVERNMENT		\$586,442	\$607,963	\$636,969	\$636,969
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FUNCTION 200: PUBLIC SAFETY

Department #210 POLICE DEPARTMENT

5100	Personal Services	581,698	630,418	641,711	641,711
5200	Purchase of Services	50,033	50,700	55,061	55,061
5400	Purchase of Supplies	19,375	19,585	21,091	21,091
5700	Other Charges & Expenses	16,960	17,085	17,285	17,285
5800	Capital Outlay	28,000	32,000	44,400	44,400

DEPARTMENT TOTAL		\$696,066	\$749,788	\$779,548	\$779,548
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Department #220 FIRE DEPARTMENT

5100	Personal Services	589,824	633,253	672,481	672,481
5200	Purchase of Services	31,000	31,900	33,900	33,900
5400	Purchase of Supplies	22,200	23,150	23,900	23,900
5700	Other Charges & Expenses	3,550	4,650	5,100	5,100
5800	Capital Outlay	1,500	6,500	6,500	6,500

DEPARTMENT TOTAL		\$648,074	\$699,453	\$741,881	\$741,881
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Department #241 INSPECTIONS DEPARTMENT

5100	Personal Services	60,790	62,549	75,788	68,908
5200	Purchase of Services	2,439	2,439	2,540	2,540
5400	Purchase of Supplies	500	500	500	500
5700	Other Charges & Expenses	6,373	6,750	7,150	7,150
5800	Capital Outlay	850	850	0	0

DEPARTMENT TOTAL		\$70,952	\$73,088	\$85,978	\$79,098
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NUMBER		Approved FY 97	Approved FY 98	Department Request FY 99	Selectmen & Fin/Com 1999 Recommend
FUND: 01 GENERAL FUND					
FUNCTION 200: PUBLIC SAFETY					
Department #291 CIVIL EMERGENCY PREPAREDNESS					
5200	Purchase of Services	100	100	100	100
DEPARTMENT TOTAL		\$100	\$100	\$100	\$100
Department #292 ANIMAL CONTROL					
5100	Personal Services	11,532	11,878	12,235	12,235
5200	Purchase of Services	4,000	4,000	4,000	4,000
5400	Purchase of Supplies	725	725	725	725
5700	Other Charges & Expenses	1,800	1,800	2,000	2,000
DEPARTMENT TOTAL		\$18,057	\$18,403	\$18,960	\$18,960
Department #296 TOWN CONSTABLE					
5100	Personal Services	100	100	100	100
DEPARTMENT TOTAL		\$100	\$100	\$100	\$100
FUNCTION 200					
TOTAL PUBLIC SAFETY		\$1,433,349	\$1,540,932	\$1,626,567	\$1,619,687
FUNCTION 300: EDUCATION					
Department #301 SCHOOL DEPARTMENT					
5100	Personal Services	1,917,914	2,149,712	2,376,112	2,376,112
5200	Purchase of Services	396,590	500,490	559,471	559,471
5400	Purchase of Supplies	119,326	127,708	145,776	145,776
5700	Other Charges & Expenses	206,773	204,651	213,869	213,869
DEPARTMENT TOTAL		\$2,640,603	\$2,982,561	\$3,295,228	\$3,295,228
Department #301					
NORTH SHORE REGIONAL VOCATIONAL SCHOOL DISTRICT					
5600	Intergovernmental * Payments (Middleton's Assessment)	136,821	164,213	189,110	189,110
DEPARTMENT TOTAL		\$136,821	\$164,213	\$189,110	\$189,110

NUMBER	Approved FY 97	Approved FY 98	Department Request FY 99	Selectmen & Fin/Com 1999 Recommend
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FUND: 01 GENERAL FUND

FUNCTION 300: EDUCATION

Department #302 MASCONOMET SCHOOL DISTRICT

(Sums for Line 5600 Included For Informational Purposes Only)

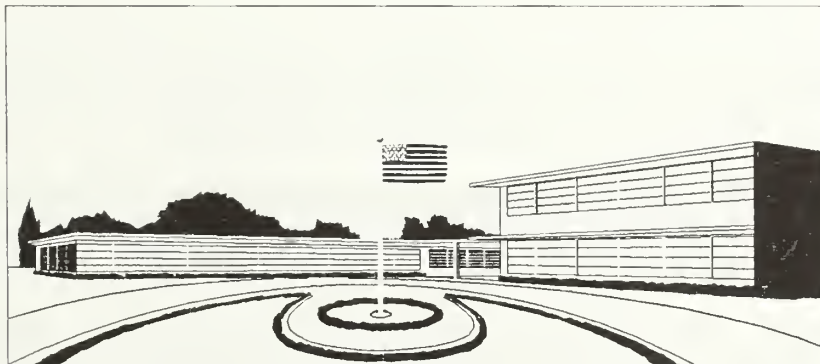
Article 5 Contains FY 1999 Masconomet Budget Request

5600	Intergovernmental Payments (Middleton's Assessment)	1,958,757	2,259,653	2,645,544 ¹	2,526,215 ¹
5900	Masconomet Building Debt Service	0	0	534,711	534,711
DEPARTMENT TOTAL		\$1,958,757	\$2,259,653	\$3,180,255	\$3,060,926
TOTAL SCHOOL DEPARTMENT		\$4,736,181	\$5,406,427	\$6,664,593	\$6,545,264

FUNCTION 300 *

* Now includes North Shore Technical School Budget.

- 1 By statute, the full Masconomet Assessment, as certified by the Regional School Committee, must be presented to the Town Meeting. Since this assessment request is not fundable within the limits of Proposition 2 1/2, the vote is contained in Article 5 as a "contingency override." This permits a pyramid type vote, giving voters a choice of funding levels they wish to support.



NUMBER		Approved FY 97	Approved FY 98	Department Request FY 99	Selectmen & Fin/Com 1999 Recommend
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FUND: 01 GENERAL FUND

FUNCTION 400: PUBLIC WORKS & FACILITIES

Department #420 PUBLIC WORKS DEPARTMENT

5100	Personal Services	387,187	402,121	422,189	422,189
5200	Purchase of Services	79,750	81,950	87,450	87,450
5400	Purchase of Supplies	133,150	137,450	137,250	137,250
5700	Other Charges & Expenses	25,300	27,300	27,350	27,350
5800	Capital Outlay	50,000	50,000	50,000	50,000
DEPARTMENT TOTAL		\$675,387	\$698,821	\$724,239	\$724,239

Department #425 TRANSFER STATION/SOLID WASTE DEPARTMENT

5100	Personal Services	0	0	0	0
5200	Purchase of Services	130,250	112,200	111,800	111,800
5400	Purchase of Supplies	5,200	7,000	7,000	7,000
5700	Other Charges & Expenses	8,500	18,500	13,500	13,500
5800	Capital Outlay				
DEPARTMENT TOTAL		\$143,950	\$137,700	\$132,300	\$132,300

FUNCTION 400

TOTAL PUBLIC WORKS	\$819,337	\$836,521	\$856,539	\$856,539
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FUNCTION 500: HUMAN SERVICES

Department #511 BOARD OF HEALTH

5100	Personal Services	58,871	60,933	62,717	62,717
5200	Purchase of Services	9,600	14,700	14,800	14,800
5400	Purchase of Supplies	900	900	900	900
5700	Other Charges & Expenses	4,200	4,200	4,200	4,200
DEPARTMENT TOTAL		\$73,571	\$80,733	\$82,617	\$82,617

Department #541 COUNCIL ON AGING

5100	Personal Services	48,973	50,266	52,244	52,244
5200	Purchase of Services	4,260	4,360	4,750	4,750
5400	Purchase of Supplies	1,920	2,020	2,120	2,120
5700	Other Charges & Expenses	3,400	4,200	4,200	4,200
5800	Capital Outlay	1,200	1,000	1,500	1,500
DEPARTMENT TOTAL		\$59,753	\$61,846	\$64,814	\$64,814

NUMBER		Approved FY 97	Approved FY 98	Department Request FY 99	Selectmen & Fin/Com 1999 Recommend
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FUND: 01 GENERAL FUND

FUNCTION 500: HUMAN SERVICES

Department #543 VETERAN'S AGENT

5100	Personal Services	6,914	7,120	7,334	7,334
5200	Purchase of Services	105	105	105	105
5400	Purchase of Supplies	170	170	170	170
5700	Other Charges & Expenses	6,550	6,550	6,550	6,550

DEPARTMENT TOTAL	\$13,739	\$13,945	\$14,159	\$14,159
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Department #545 TRI-TOWN COUNCIL

5200	Purchase of Services	11,141	17,910	18,500	18,500
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DEPARTMENT TOTAL	\$11,141	\$17,910	\$18,500	\$18,500
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Department #546 HELP FOR ABUSED WOMEN

5200	Purchase of Services	1,000	1,500	1,500	1,500
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DEPARTMENT TOTAL	\$1,000	\$1,500	\$1,500	\$1,500
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Department #548 MIDDLETON GARDEN CLUB

5200	Purchase of Services	1,500	1,700	1,800	1,800
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DEPARTMENT TOTAL	\$1,500	\$1,700	\$1,800	\$1,800
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Department #549 LOCAL CABLE BROADCASTS

5200	Purchase of Services	2,500	2,575	2,650	2,650
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DEPARTMENT TOTAL	\$2,500	\$2,575	\$2,650	\$2,650
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Department #550 NORTH SHORE TRANSPORTATION TASK FORCE

5200	Purchase of Services	500	500	500	500
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DEPARTMENT TOTAL	\$500	\$500	\$500	\$500
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FUNCTION 500

TOTAL HUMAN SERVICES	\$163,704	\$180,709	\$186,540	\$186,540
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NUMBER		Approved FY 97	Approved FY 98	Department Request FY 99	Selectmen & Fin/Com 1999 Recommend
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FUND: 01 GENERAL FUND

FUNCTION 600: CULTURE & RECREATION

Department #610 FLINT PUBLIC LIBRARY

5100	Personal Services	129,684	148,694	154,320	154,320
5200	Purchase of Services	15,180	15,000	15,500	15,500
5400	Purchase of Supplies	42,600	45,200	47,200	47,200
5700	Other Charges & Expenses	800	700	700	700
5800	Capital Outlay	1,500	1,500	1,500	1,500
DEPARTMENT TOTAL		\$189,764	\$211,094	\$219,220	\$219,220

Department #630 RECREATION COMMISSION

5100	Personal Services	5,038	5,926	6,103	6,103
5200	Purchase of Services	5,850	5,850	7,050	7,050
5400	Purchase of Supplies	750	900	950	950
5700	Other Charges & Expenses	4,800	4,825	5,025	5,025
DEPARTMENT TOTAL		\$16,438	\$17,501	\$19,128	\$19,128

Department #691 HISTORICAL COMMISSION

5200	Purchase of Services	300	300	300	300
DEPARTMENT TOTAL		\$300	\$300	\$300	\$300

FUNCTION 600 TOTAL CULTURE AND RECREATION		\$206,502	\$228,895	\$238,648	\$238,648
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FUNCTION 700: DEBT SERVICE

Department #710 DEBT SERVICE

5801	Principal	295,000	280,000	485,000	485,000
5915	Interest	330,854	507,365	408,790	408,790

TOTAL DEBT SERVICE FUNCTION 700

FUNCTION 700 TOTAL DEBT SERVICE		\$625,854	\$787,365	\$893,790	\$893,790
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NUMBER		Approved FY 97	Approved FY 98	Department Request FY 99	Selectmen & Fin/Com 1999 Recommend
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FUND: 01 GENERAL FUND

FUNCTION UNCLASSIFIED

Department: MISCELLANEOUS ITEMS

195	Town Report	11,500	12,500	13,000	13,000
196	Audit	11,000	11,000	11,000	11,000
197	Xmas Lights	350	350	400	400
199	Street Lights	50,000	50,000	50,000	50,000
692	Memorial Day	3,000	3,000	3,100	3,100
911	Retirement	244,000	286,000	307,000	307,000
913	Unemployment	7,000	7,000	7,000	7,000
914	Sick Leave	1,000	1,000	1,000	1,000
914	Health Insurance	168,000	185,000	194,000	194,000
915	Group Insurance	3,500	3,500	3,500	3,500
916	Medicare Payroll Tax	26,000	20,000	26,000	26,000
945	Liability & Work Comp. Insurance	106,000	86,500	67,500	67,500

TOTAL UNCLASSIFIED	\$631,350	\$665,850	\$683,500	\$683,500
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GENERAL FUND 01

TOTAL OPERATING BUDGET	\$9,202,719	\$10,254,662	\$11,787,146	\$11,660,937
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FUND: 28 WATER DEPARTMENT

FUNCTION 400: WATER SPECIAL REVENUE

Department #451 WATER DEPARTMENT

5100	Personal Services	30,790	32,602	36,430	36,430
5200	Purchase of Services	750	750	1,000	1,000
5400	Purchase of Supplies	20,000	20,000	20,000	20,000
5700	Other Charges & Expenses	500	500	600	600
5800	Capital Outlay	0	0	1,500	1,500
5900	Debt Service	27,738	65,070	71,102	71,102

WATER FUND 28

TOTAL OPERATING BUDGET	\$79,778	\$118,922	\$130,632	\$130,632
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GRAND TOTAL OF

GENERAL FUND 01 & WATER FUND 28 BUDGETS	\$9,282,497	\$10,373,584	\$11,917,778	\$11,791,569
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The Finance Committee recommended that Article 4 be approved as written.

At the suggestion of the Moderator, consideration of Article 4 was discontinued prior to the reading of the operating budget for Department #302--Masconomet School District--in order to take up Article 5 to establish the level of funding for Masconomet to be inserted in Article 4. It was moved and seconded from the floor to lay Article 4 on the table, and it was so



voted unanimously. A motion was made and seconded to take Article 5 out of order, and it was so voted unanimously.

ARTICLE 5: On petition of the Board of Selectmen and the Masconomet Regional School Committee to see if the Town will vote to:

(Part IA) raise and appropriate the sum of **\$2,440,000** to **partially fund** the Fiscal Year 1999 Masconomet Regional School District Assessment, and to see if such funds will be raised by taxation; and to raise and appropriate the additional sum of **\$86,215** to **further fund** the Masconomet Regional School District Assessment **(for a total Town Assessment of \$2,526,215)** for the fiscal year beginning July first nineteen hundred and ninety-eight; provided that said approval shall be contingent upon the passage of a Proposition 2 1/2 referendum under Massachusetts General Laws Chapter 59, Section 21C, and to see if such funds will be raised by taxation. **See Ballot Question 1A**

OR

(Part IB) raise and appropriate the sum of **\$2,440,000** to **partially fund** the Fiscal Year 1999 Masconomet Regional School District Assessment, and to see if such funds will be raised by taxation; and to raise and appropriate the additional sum of **\$205,544** to **further fund** the Masconomet Regional School District Assessment **(for a total Town Assessment of \$2,645,544)** for the fiscal year beginning July first nineteen hundred and ninety-eight; provided that said approval shall be contingent upon the passage of a Proposition 2 1/2 referendum under Massachusetts General Laws Chapter 59,

Section 21C, and to see if such funds will be raised by taxation. **See Ballot Question 1B.**

The Finance Committee recommended adoption of Article 5, Part 1A, as written, with the funds to be raised by taxation.

The Finance Committee did not recommend Part 1B. George Dow made a motion, which was seconded from the floor, to amend Article 5 to the sum of \$2,440,000 to give voters the opportunity to fund Article 5 within the limits of Proposition 2 1/2. Judy Gallerie made a motion, seconded by Susan Richardson, to amend Article 5 to Part 1B as written to fully fund the requested budget. Both amendments were voted down.



The vote on the Part 1B amendment to \$2,645,544 was Yes--106; No--165. The vote on the Dow amendment to \$2,440,000 was Yes--76; No--192. The Town Meeting then voted to adopt Article 5, Part 1A, for a total appropriation of \$2,526,215 for the Masconomet operating budget.

Eugene LeBlanc made a motion to take Article 40 out of order which was seconded from the floor. The motion carried. Article 40 was then disposed of as follows:

ARTICLE 40: On petition of the Town Clerk and Board of Selectmen to see if the Town will vote to amend the Town Bylaws by adding Paragraph 8, Part 1, II Government of Town Meetings as follows:

"In matters requiring a two thirds vote by statute, the Moderator may dispense with a count if in his discretion the vote clearly meets the two thirds requirement."

The Finance Committee made no recommendation on Article 40, noting that Article 40 was linked to Article 39, the enabling legislation, which needed to be considered first. Mr. LeBlanc moved that Article 40 be adopted and the motion was seconded from the floor. Mr. LeBlanc then spoke against Article 40. The Finance Committee then recommended passage of Article 40. When put to a vote, the motion to adopt Article 40 did not carry.

It was moved, seconded, and unanimously voted to take Article 4 from the table. After the Modertator completed the reading of Article 4 the Finance Committee recommended that Article 4 be funded as follows:

\$ 11,574,437	by taxation
\$ 16,500	from NSES grants and fees
\$ 10,000	from Fire Alarm fees
\$ 60,000	from the Ambulance Fund
\$ 130,632	from the Water Department receipts

for a total operating budget for both the General Fund and the Water Fund of \$11,791,569.

The operating budget was adopted on a unanimous voice vote.

ARTICLE 6: On petition of the Masconomet School Committee to see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of \$67,844 for the purpose of purchasing, installing, and equipping classroom computers, monitors, and printers, and other technology equipment, and wiring incidental thereto for the Masconomet Regional School District, for the fiscal year beginning July first nineteen hundred and ninety-eight; provided that said approval shall be contingent upon the passage of a Proposition 2 1/2 referendum under Massachusetts General Laws Chapter 59, Section 21C, and to see if such funds will be raised by taxation, by transfer from available funds, by borrowing or by any combination thereof.

The Finance Committee did not recommend Article 6, but informed the Meeting that, if approved, this is a one-time capital outlay expenditure under Subsections I 1/2 and M of Section 21C, Chapter 59 of the Massachusetts General Laws. The Finance Committee did not recommend Article 6 because there are adequate funds in the Masco operating budget for these needs and because of the potential of up to 63% state reimbursement in the future. Edward Gronbeck of the Masconomet Regional School Committee moved that Article 6 be adopted and the motion was seconded from the floor.

After considerable discussion, Article 6 was adopted by a showing of cards, the vote being 119 in favor and 102 opposed.

ARTICLE 7: On petition of the Middleton School Committee and Superintendent of Schools to see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of \$18,500 for the purchase of classroom furniture and carpet cleaning equipment and to replace carpeting in schools, and to see if such funds will be raised by taxation; by transfer from available funds, by borrowing or by any combination thereof.

The Finance Committee recommended passage of Article 7 with the money to be raised by taxation. Dr. Connelly, Superintendent of Schools, spoke in favor of the appropriation, and the article was adopted on a voice vote.

ARTICLE 8: On petition of the Middleton School Committee and Superintendent of Schools to see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of \$20,000 for the purpose of leasing, installing, and equipping classroom computers, monitors, and printers, and other technology equipment, and purchasing software required to operate a computer based development language arts program, and to see if such funds will be raised by taxation; by transfer from available funds, by borrowing or by any combination thereof.

The Finance Committee recommended that the Meeting adopt Article 8 with the \$20,000 to be taken from Free Cash, and the motion carried.

ARTICLE 9: On petition of the Inspector of Buildings to see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of \$20,000 to employ alternate and local inspectors and a part-time Conservation Agent to assist the Inspector of Buildings and the Conservation Agent during periods of increased building construction as determined by the Board of Selectmen, such funds to be raised from construction permit fees.



The Finance Committee recommended that Article 9 be approved as printed, and the motion carried.

ARTICLE 10: On petition of the Town Accountant and the Treasurer/Collector to see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of \$35,000 to replace the Town's Financial Computer System, including a high speed line printer for the town's tax bills and accounts payable; and to see if such funds will be raised by taxation; by transfer from available funds, by borrowing or by any combination thereof.



The Finance Committee recommended appropriating \$35,000 to fund Article 10 with the money to be raised by taxation. A vote was taken by a showing of cards, and 65 voted Yes and 134 voted No. The motion did not carry.

ARTICLE 11: On petition of the Board of Selectmen to see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of \$29,000 to replace windows and clapboards on the front side of Memorial Hall, and make various repairs to the clock tower and outside walls of the Flint Public Library; and to see if such funds will be raised by taxation; by transfer from available funds, by borrowing or by any combination thereof.

On the recommendation of the Finance Committee, the Meeting voted to adopt Article 11 with the \$29,000 to be raised by taxation.

ARTICLE 12: On petition of the Board of Selectmen to see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of \$12,000 to replace copiers in Town Buildings; and to see if such funds will be raised by taxation; by transfer from available funds, by borrowing or by any combination thereof.

The Finance Committee recommended that the Town Meeting appropriate \$12,000 to replace copy machines in Town Buildings and that the money be raised by taxation. After a brief discussion of the relative merits of purchasing or leasing this equipment, the Meeting voted to purchase it as recommended.

ARTICLE 13: On petition of the Board of Assessors to see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of \$25,000 for the purchase of, and conversion costs associated with, the installation of a new appraisal software system to be installed in accordance with the guidelines of the Massachusetts Department of Revenue for property valuation and assessment systems; and to see if such funds will be raised by taxation; by transfer from available funds, by borrowing or by any combination thereof.

The Finance Committee recommended that Article 13 be adopted as printed with the funding source to be the Overlay Surplus Account. Kosta Prentakis, Chairman of the Board of Assessors, spoke in favor, and the motion carried.

ARTICLE 14: On petition of the Treasurer/Collector to see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of \$1,600 for the purchase of an automatic letter opener; and to see if such funds will be raised by taxation; by transfer from available funds, by borrowing or by any combination thereof.

Although the Finance Committee recommended this appropriation with the funding to be by taxation, the motion did not carry.

ARTICLE 15: On petition of the Animal Control Officer to see if the Town will vote to amend the **TOWN OF MIDDLETON'S GENERAL BYLAWS, PART TWO, SECTION 1, SUBSECTION C**, to increase the fee for a dog license from \$5.00 for a male or spayed female dog and \$8.00 for an un-spayed female dog to \$10.00 for all dogs.

The Finance Committee recommended adoption of Article 15. Lisa Hackett of 182 Forest Street made a motion to amend the article by deleting the words "to \$10.00 for all dogs." and replacing them with "to \$10.00 for all neutered or spayed dogs and \$15.00 for all un-neutered or un-spayed dogs." Both the amendment and the amended article were adopted by a majority vote.



ARTICLE 16: On petition of the Police Chief to see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of \$18,500 to purchase equipment to upgrade the police radio system including ten (10) portable radios and one base radio console; and to see if such funds will be raised by taxation; by transfer from available funds, by borrowing or by any combination thereof.

The Finance Committee recommended passage of Article 16 with the \$18,500 to be raised by taxation. Paul Armitage, Chief of Police, spoke in favor, and the motion carried.

ARTICLE 17: On petition of the Police Chief to see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of \$4,000 to replace the sign in front of the Police Station and purchase road safety equipment; and to see if such funds will be raised by taxation; by transfer from available funds, by borrowing or by any combination thereof.

On the recommendation of the Finance Committee and the Chief of Police, the Meeting voted to adopt Article 17 with taxation as the funding source.

ARTICLE 18: On petition of Frank W. Twiss, Robert A. Currier and thirteen registered voters to see if the Town will vote to accept the provisions of Massachusetts General Laws, Chapter 41, Section 100G 1/4 which provides that the Town pay "the reasonable expense, not exceeding five thousand dollars," of the funeral and burial of any firefighter or police officer who is killed or sustains injuries which results in their death while in the performance of their duties.

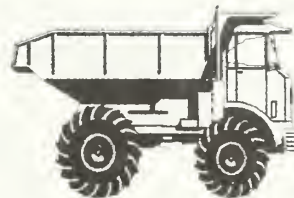
The Finance Committee recommended adoption of Article 18 with the money to be raised as needed, and the motion carried on a majority voice vote.

ARTICLE 19: On petition of the Superintendent of the Division of Public Works and the Board of Selectmen to see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of \$25,000 to fund architectural expenses to prepare plans and purchase materials to complete part of a 4,700 square foot addition to the DPW Garage at 195 North Main Street; and to see if such funds will be raised by transfer from available funds, by borrowing or by any combination thereof.

The Finance Committee recommended that Article 19 be adopted and that the funds be taken from the Overlay Surplus Account. Dennis Roy, Superintendent of Public Works, spoke in favor of the appropriation which will complete part of a 90' by 50' concrete block expansion. The voice vote being too close to call, the Moderator asked for a showing of cards. 92 voted Yes and 87 voted No. The motion carried.

ARTICLE 20: On petition of the Superintendent of the Division of Public Works to see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of \$28,000 to purchase a new stainless steel 10 cubic yard sander unit, and a new plow and hitch to be installed onto a Town owned truck and chassis (1981 International {Ladder One}) in order to provide a third sander to the Public Works Department; and to see if such funds will be raised by taxation; by transfer from available funds, by borrowing or by any combination thereof.

On the recommendation of the Finance Committee and the Superintendent of Public Works, the Meeting voted to buy a third sander with \$28,000 to be raised by taxation.



ARTICLE 21: On petition of the Building Inspector, Superintendent of the Division of Public Works, the Health Agent, and the Board of Selectmen to see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of \$25,000 to renovate, expand and upgrade the public offices within the DPW Building at 195 North Main Street, which houses the offices of the Department of Public Works and Inspections, and the Boards of Health, Planning, Appeals, and Conservation; and to see if such funds will be raised by taxation; by transfer from available funds, by borrowing or by any combination thereof.

The Finance Committee recommended that Article 21 be adopted with the money to be transferred from Free Cash, and the Meeting voted to do so.

ARTICLE 22: On petition of the Superintendent of the Division of Public Works and the Board of Selectmen to see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of \$36,000 to pay for one additional full time light equipment operator for the Department of Public Works, and to see if such funds will be raised by taxation; by transfer from available funds, by borrowing or by any combination thereof.

The Finance Committee did not recommend Article 22 because they think its benefits do not justify the expense. They recommended that if the Article did pass, the funds be taken from taxation. Dennis Roy, Superintendent of Public Works, spoke in favor. When the vote was taken by a showing of cards, the count was 77 Yes and 93 No. The motion did not carry.

ARTICLE 23: On petition of the Superintendent of the Division of Public Works to see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of \$192,582 to install drainage, widen, pave and otherwise improve any public ways in accordance with the provisions of Section 34, Chapter 90 of the Massachusetts General Laws, such funds to be reimbursed by the Commonwealth of Massachusetts Highway Department.



Article 23 was recommended by the Finance Committee with the funds to come from a Chapter 90 grant. The Meeting approved the article on a voice vote.

ARTICLE 24: On petition of the Trustees of the Flint Public Library, the Board of Selectmen, and the Fire Station Renovation Committee to see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of \$50,000 for the purpose of architectural and engineering services and other



expenses for a two-part Feasibility Study to first examine opportunities for the expansion and renovation of the Flint Public Library, and

then study the possibilities for expansion at the Fire Station. Said study will utilize a single firm to undertake both parts of the work in order to assure a unified and comprehensive analysis of the needs of the Town and both departments in relation to the existing town property, and to explore the feasibility of and costs associated with the relocation of the Fire Station; and to see if such funds will be raised by taxation; by transfer from available funds, by borrowing or by any combination thereof.

The Finance Committee recommended spending \$50,000 for this architectural and engineering feasibility study with \$40,000 to be taken from Free Cash and \$10,000 from the FY96 library study appropriation. Michele Mals, Library Director spoke in favor as did Henry Michalski, Fire Chief. The motion carried unanimously.

ARTICLE 25: On petition of the Fire Chief to see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of \$5,000 to purchase self contained breathing apparatus (SCBA) testing equipment; and to see if such funds will be raised by taxation; by transfer from available funds, by borrowing or by any combination thereof.

On the recommendation of the Finance Committee and the Fire Chief, the Meeting voted unanimously to transfer \$5,000 from the Fire Alarm Equipment Fund to purchase self contained breathing apparatus testing equipment.

ARTICLE 26: On petition of the Fire Chief to see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of \$6,000 to replace the copier at the Fire Station; and to see if such funds will be raised by taxation; by transfer from available funds, by borrowing or by any combination thereof.

The Finance Committee recommended that \$6,000 be transferred from the Ambulance Fund to buy a new copier for the Fire Station, and the motion carried.

ARTICLE 27: On petition of the Fire Chief to see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of \$21,000 to paint, make roof repairs at, and remove the underground fuel tank at the Fire Station; and to see if such funds will be raised by taxation; by transfer from available funds, by borrowing or by any combination thereof.

This appropriation was recommended by the Finance Committee with the funds to be raised by taxation. The motion carried.

The Moderator asked the Meeting if it was their preference to continue, and the response was affirmative.

ARTICLE 28: On petition of the Fire Chief to see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of \$8,000 to replace ten (10) Fire Alarm Circuits within the Fire Alarm System located at the Fire Station; and to see if such funds will be raised by taxation; by transfer from available funds, by borrowing or by any combination thereof.

On the recommendation of the Finance Committee, the Meeting voted unanimously to transfer \$8,000 from the Fire Alarm Equipment Fund to replace ten fire Alarm Circuits within the Fire Alarm System located at the Fire Station.

ARTICLE 29: On petition of the Fire Chief to see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of \$25,000 to purchase a new vehicle extrication system and tools (Jaws of Life), for the Fire Department; and to see if such funds will be raised by taxation; by transfer from available funds, by borrowing or by any combination thereof.

The Finance Committee recommended this appropriation with the \$25,000 to be raised by taxation. Chief Michalski spoke in favor, and Article 29 was adopted.



ARTICLE 30: On petition of the Fire Chief to see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of \$48,000 to pay for and provide one additional full time firefighter for the day shift on Monday through Friday; and to see if such funds will be raised by taxation; by transfer from available funds, by borrowing or by any combination thereof.

The Finance Committee recommended that the Meeting adopt Article 30 with the funds to be raised by taxation. Chief Michalski spoke in favor. After several questions and answers about staffing and response time in neighboring communities, a vote was taken by a showing of cards. With 83 voting Yes and 82 voting No, the motion carried.

ARTICLE 31: On petition of the Growth and Master Plan Study Committee to see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of \$51,500 for professional planning services to assist the Committee in updating the Town's Official Master Plan prepared in 1966; and to see if such funds will be raised by taxation; by transfer from available funds, by borrowing or by any combination thereof; said appropriation to be reduced by any funds which may be obtained by the Town through state planning grants.

The Finance Committee recommended adoption of Article 31 with the funds to be transferred from Free Cash. Assessor and Chairman of the Growth and Master Plan Study Committee Kosta Prentakis spoke in favor of the article, as did Jack Leitner, member of the Board of Appeals, Selectman Nancy Jones, and Selectman Richard Ajootian. The vote in favor of adopting Article 31 was unanimous.

ARTICLE 32: On petition of the Electric Light Commissioners to see if the Town will vote to accept a sum of money from the earnings of the Electric Light Department, said sum to be used for the reduction of taxes.

The Finance Committee recommended that the Meeting accept \$90,000 from the earnings of the Electric Light Department to be used to reduce taxes, and the vote to do so was unanimous.

ARTICLE 33: On petition of the Electric Light Commissioners to see if the Town will authorize the appropriation of all income of the Municipal Light Department, the whole to be expended by the Manager thereof under the direction and control of the Commissioners, for the expenses of the Department for the Fiscal Year as defined in Section 57 of Chapter 164 of the General Laws of the Commonwealth, and the excess to be transferred to the Depreciation Fund of said Department to be used as the Commissioners may direct hereto.

On the recommendation of the Finance committee, the Meeting voted to approve Article 33.

ARTICLE 34: (Unedited and reprinted as submitted) On petition of Anthony Duskey and more than 10 registered voters of the Town of Middleton to see if the Town will vote to include the transfer station fee in the tax rate as fees are not deductible on federal tax returns. Real estate taxes are deductible.

The Finance Committee did not recommend adoption of Article 34, there was no motion from the floor, and no action was taken.

ARTICLE 34A: On petition of the Board of Selectmen to see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of \$90,000 to partially fund the operations of the Transfer Station and the costs of trash disposal for the fiscal year beginning July first nineteen hundred and ninety-eight; provided that said approval shall be contingent upon the passage of a Proposition 2 1/2 referendum under Massachusetts General Laws Chapter 59, Section 21C, and to see if such funds will be raised by taxation. Said appropriation will place sufficient funds in the budget to permit the Selectmen to vote to eliminate the annual \$75 per household sticker fee charged for the use of said Transfer Station.

PURPOSE: The purpose of Article 34A is to give the voters a workable and financially viable method of eliminating the Transfer Station sticker fee of \$75 per year, which appears to be the intent of the previous article submitted by citizen petition.

As submitted, the language in the Article 34 (citizen) petition cannot accomplish what it proposes, since it does not provide supplemental funding to offset the \$90,000 raised through trash sticker fee sales. In the event that Article 34 passes as written, the Town Budget would be \$90,000 over the limits of spending allowed under Proposition 2-1/2 once the Selectmen vote to eliminate said fee.

Therefore, the Selectmen have included a Proposition 2-1/2 override vote in Article 34A to authorize the same amount of funds, (\$90,000) to be taken from taxation. **This question will also appear on the Town Election Ballot and must pass before the appropriation is in place to permit the Selectmen to vote to eliminate the Transfer Station sticker fee of \$75.00. See Ballot Question #4.**

The Finance Committee did not recommend adoption of Article 34A, but did recommend that if it is adopted the funds be raised by taxation. It was explained that the tax rate already includes 2/3 of the Transfer Station costs and this would add \$90,000 to the tax levy. Finance Committee member Robert Porteous made a motion to accept Article 34A which was seconded by Selectman Richard Ajootian. Mr. Porteous then spoke in favor and Mr. Ajootian spoke in opposition to adding this permanent override to the tax levy. Joan Merrill of Ferncroft Tower also spoke in opposition. The motion did not carry.

ARTICLE 35: On petition of the Board of Selectmen to see if the Town will vote to transfer a sum of money to be taken from Free Cash to apply to and reduce the Fiscal Year 1999 Tax Rate.

The Finance Committee recommended that \$150,000 be transferred from Free Cash to reduce the tax rate, and the Meeting voted to do so unanimously.

ARTICLE 36: On petition of the Board of Selectmen and Finance Committee to see if the Town will vote to appropriate a sum of money to the Stabilization Fund, and to see if such funds will be raised by taxation; by transfer from available funds, by borrowing or by any combination thereof.

The Finance Committee recommended that \$125,000 be transferred from Free Cash to the Stabilization Fund, and the motion carried.



ARTICLE 37: On petition of the Conservation Commission to see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of \$10,000 to be expended under the direction of the Board of Selectmen to pay for legal expenses associated with the enforcement of the State's Wetlands Act, and to see if such funds will be raised by taxation; by transfer from available funds, by borrowing or by any combination thereof.

The Finance Committee did not recommend this appropriation. No motion was made from the floor, and no action was taken.



ARTICLE 38: On petition of the Conservation Commission to see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of \$50,000 to add to the Conservation Land Acquisition Fund established by the 1997 Annual Town Meeting in accordance with the provisions of Massachusetts General Laws Chapter 40, Section 8C as amended, and to see if such funds will be raised by taxation; by transfer from available funds, by borrowing or by any combination thereof.

The Finance Committee recommended that \$25,000 be appropriated from Free Cash to add to the Conservation Land Acquisition Fund. Selectman Nancy Jones made a motion to amend the amount to \$50,000 which was seconded from the floor. The vote to amend did not pass. (When a count was requested by a showing of cards, 42 voted Yes and 58 voted No.) Trudy Dearborn of the Conservation Commission spoke in favor of the article as moved by the Finance committee at \$25,000, and the Meeting voted to adopt it unanimously.

ARTICLE 39: On petition of the Town Clerk and Board of Selectmen to see if the Town will vote to accept Chapter 448 of the Acts of 1996, which provide that the Town Bylaws may be amended to permit the Moderator to use his discretion in whether to dispense with the count in matters requiring a two thirds vote by statute.

There was no motion made and no action taken on Article 39.

Article 40 was taken out of order and voted on after Article 5, earlier in the Meeting.

ARTICLE 41: On petition of the Board of Selectmen acting as the Sewer Commissioners of the Town to see if the Town will vote to accept the provisions of Massachusetts General Laws Chapter 83, Section 15 as amended to permit the adoption of alternative forms of assessment for owners of land within areas served by public sewers.

The Finance Committee recommended adoption of Article 41, the Planning Board recommended adoption of Article 41, and the motion carried on a majority voice vote.

ARTICLE 42: On petition of the Board of Selectmen to see if the Town will vote to accept Leary Lane as a Town Street as laid out by the Board of Selectmen under Massachusetts General Laws, Chapter 82, Section 22, and in compliance with the Planning Board's Subdivision Rules and Regulations for new streets.

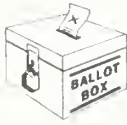
The Finance Committee deferred to the Planning Board and the Planning Board did not recommend acceptance of Leary Lane as a Town Street at this time. No motion was made and no action was taken on Article 42.

The entire Warrant having been dealt with, it was moved, seconded, and unanimously voted to dissolve the Meeting at 11:55 PM.

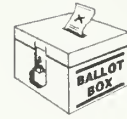
Attest a true copy,

Sarah B. George
Town Clerk





ANNUAL TOWN ELECTION MONDAY, MAY 18, 1998



The polls were opened at 7:00 AM by Warden Sandra Pollock and remained open until 8:00 PM. There were 3772 registered voters at the close of registration before the election and 1208 votes were cast. The results were as follows:

Moderator

(For One Year, Vote for One)

Henry A. Tragert	925
All Others	9
Blanks	274

Selectman

(For Three Years, Vote for Two)

Richard O. Ajootian	422
James G. Hosman	392
Mary Jane Morrin	429
William P. O'Neil	317
Joseph E. Pascucci	496
All Others	9
Blanks	351

Constable

(For Three Years, Vote for One)

Robert M. Aldenberg	551
Paul Cowhig	518
All Others	4
Blanks	135

Assessor

(For Three Years, Vote for One)

Patricia Ohlson	845
All Others	8
Blanks	355

Elementary School Committee

(For Three Years, Vote for One)

Joel F. Shamon	844
All Others	3
Blanks	361

Regional School Committee

(For Three Years, Vote for One)

Susan Richardson	921
All Others	8
Blanks	279

Electric Light Commissioner

(For Three Years, Vote for One)

Charles S. Clinch	927
All Others	5
Blanks	276

Planning Board

(For Five Years, Vote for One)

Harry W. Matthews, Jr.	488
Steven M. Weitzler	545
David S. Emma	9
All Others	2
Blanks	164

Planning Board

(For Three Years, Vote for One)

David S. Emma	39
Harry W. Matthews, Jr.	7
Steven M. Weitzler	40
All Others	24
Blanks	1098

Trustee of the Flint Public Library

(For Three Years, Vote for One)

Theodore L. Novakowski	903
All Others	4
Blanks	301

Trustee of the Flint Public Library
(For Two Years, Vote for Two)

Lois Lane Gianni	795
Brenda J. Kirwan	789
All Others	4
Blanks	828

**Ballot Instructions for Questions
1A and 1B**

Questions 1A and 1B are separate questions. You may vote for or against each question independently. Each question requires a majority of those voting on that question to pass. If more than one question passes, the question with the highest dollar amount will prevail.

Question 1A

Shall the town of Middleton be allowed to assess an additional \$86,215 in real estate and personal property taxes for the purpose of partially funding the Town's assessment for the Masconomet Regional School District for the fiscal year beginning July first, nineteen hundred and ninety-eight?

Yes	462
No	635
Blanks	111

Question 1B

Shall the Town of Middleton be allowed to assess an additional \$205,544 in real estate and personal property taxes for the purpose of partially funding the Town's assessment for the Masconomet Regional School District for the fiscal year beginning July first, nineteen hundred and ninety-eight?

Yes	333
No	837
Blanks	38

Question 2

Shall the Town of Middleton be allowed to assess an additional \$67,844 in real estate and personal property taxes, for the purpose of purchasing, installing, and equipping classroom computers, monitors and printers, and other technology equipment and wiring incidental thereto for the Masconomet School District for the fiscal year beginning on July first nineteen hundred and ninety-eight?

Yes	441
No	730
Blanks	37

Question 3

Shall the Town amend the Town Charter by deleting Chapter Five, Section 5-5-1 in its entirety and by adding the following new Section 6-3-1 (e) of Chapter 6 Appointments By The Board of Selectmen: (e) The Board of Selectmen shall have the power to appoint three members of the Board of Assessors for three year overlapping terms.

Yes	419
No	668
Blanks	121

Question 4

Shall the Town of Middleton be allowed to assess an additional \$90,000 in real estate and personal property taxes for the purpose of partially funding the operating expenses of the Town's Transfer Station and trash disposal costs for the fiscal year beginning July first, nineteen hundred and ninety-eight?

Yes	310
No	862
Blank	36

BIRTHS, MARRIAGES AND DEATHS



In Fiscal Year 1998, seventy-three (73) births were recorded in the Town Clerk's Office as occurring to residents of Middleton.



Thirty (30) marriages and forty-four (44) deaths were also recorded.

In accordance with a 1991 amendment of Chapter 51, Section 4 of the Massachusetts General Laws, the list of births is now omitted from this report.

Similarly, the lists of marriages and deaths are now omitted in accordance with the recommendations of the Massachusetts Registry of Vital Records. Please be advised that this information is still public, however, and individual records may be viewed and copies purchased in the Town Clerk's Office.



CUSTODIAN OF TOWN LANDS

During Fiscal Year 1998, extensive preparation for an auction was the objective. Documents, meetings and telephone calls were made to arrive at a list of properties to be sold. Originally, the list contained 31 parcels, but after a review with the Selectmen, Conservation Commission, and our tax attorney, the list was reduced to 11 properties.

The input of our tax attorney is an important part of this process in order to assure passage of good title with the purchase. The assistance of the Conservation Commission provided the Town with consistent conservation objectives. The date of the auction was advertised and posted for November 19, 1998.

My objective is to continue to place back on the Tax Roll all foreclosed properties that are not needed for the Town's use or for conservation purposes.

Respectfully Submitted,

Robert F. Murphy

BOARD OF REGISTRARS OF VOTERS

The Board of Registrars of Voters is appointed by the Board of Selectmen to serve three-year overlapping terms. The Town clerk is a Registrar by virtue of her office. The duties of the Registrars include the following:

- Register new voters
- Certify absentee ballot applications
- Certify nomination papers and petitions
- Conduct election recounts
- Maintain and update the list of registered voters
- Prepare the annual census.
-



The Board holds a special registration session before each election and town meeting. In addition to the special sessions, any resident of the Town may register to vote in the Town Clerk's Office: Monday through Thursday, 9 AM to 4 PM, Friday, 9 AM to 1 PM, and Tuesday evening 6-8 PM.

Mail-in registration is also possible. Forms are available at the Post Office and Library or by calling the Town Clerk's Office at 774-6927.

As of January 1, 1998, the Board found the number of residents to be 6,534. As of June 30, 1998, the number of registered voters and their party enrollment is as follows:

Democrats	838
Republicans	545
Interdependent Third Party	2
Libertarian	15
Reform	1
Rainbow Coalition	1
Unenrolled	2370
Total	3772

Respectfully Submitted,

Mary Hocter, Chairman
Nancy Karolides
Karen Gerrior
Sarah George (Ex Officio)

TOWN ACCOUNTANT

The general purpose financial statements of the Town of Middleton are submitted herewith. These reports were prepared by me as the Town Accountant.

Responsibility for both accuracy of the presented data and the completeness and fairness of the presentation, including all disclosures, rest with the Town.

I believe the data as presented is accurate in all material aspects; that it is presented in a manner designed to fairly set forth the financial position and results of operation of the Town as measured by the financial activity of its various funds; and that all disclosures necessary to enable the reader to gain the maximum understanding of the Town's financial affairs have been included.

The Town continues to be in a sound financial position. However, the tax rate for Fiscal Year 1998 did increase to \$15.18 per thousand dollars of valuation. This increase was projected, but thanks to the efforts of everyone involved in Town Government and the support of Town body, it didn't exceed the projections.

The following is a schedule of general long-term town obligations

The Town's indebtedness consists of serial notes issued between fiscal 1980 and 1996 for funding special projects. All bond issues were approved by Town Meeting.

**The following is a statement of
changes in long term debt for the year
ended June 30, 1998**

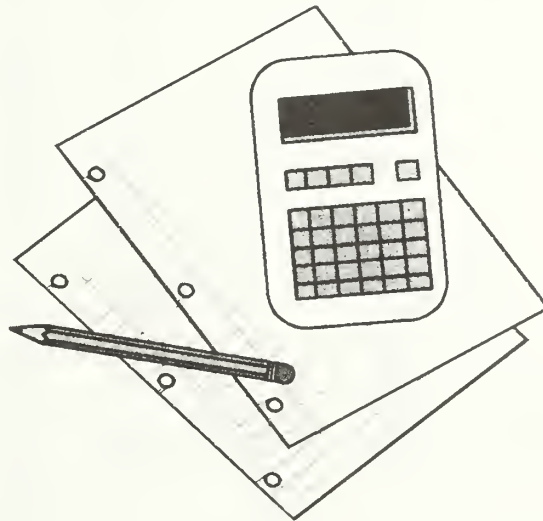
TYPE	INTEREST RATES	ORIGINAL AMOUNT	BALANCE AT 7-1-97	ADDI- TIONS	RETIRE- MENTS	BALANCE AT 6-30-98
School Construction & Landfill Project Maturities 1999-2015	4.3% to 7.2%	\$5,000,000	\$4,830,000	---	\$180,000	\$4,650,000
School Renovation Maturities 1999-2005	3.1% to 5.0%	\$1,275,000	\$900,000	---	\$100,000	\$800,000
Electric Substation Maturities 1999-2009	5.7% to 7.0%	\$1,975,000	\$1,200,000	---	\$100,000	\$1,100,000
Water Extension Maturities 1999-2005	5.0%	\$412,000	\$28,600	---	\$3,575	\$25,025
Water Extension Maturities 1999-2022	5.0%	\$367,800	\$250,200	---	\$9,800	\$240,400
Multi Purpose Maturities 1999-2013	4.2%	\$3,080,000	-----	\$3,080,000	-----	\$3,080,000
TOTALS		\$12,109,800	\$7,208,800	\$3,080,000	\$393,375	\$9,895,425

The annual debt service requirements of the Town's outstanding indebtedness at June 30, 1998 are as follows

Fiscal Year	Principal	Interest	Total
1999	\$ 628,375	\$ 491,401	\$ 1,119,776
2000	\$ 633,375	\$ 444,915	\$ 1,078,290
2001	\$ 638,375	\$ 420,788	\$ 1,059,163
2002	\$ 628,375	\$ 390,823	\$ 1,019,198
2003	\$ 638,375	\$ 361,486	\$ 999,861
Thereafter	\$ 6,728,550	\$ 2,077,886	\$ 8,806,436
Total	\$ 9,895,425	\$ 4,187,299	\$ 14,082,724

At June 30, 1998, the Town has authorized and unissued debt of \$200,000 for sewer capital projects. In addition, the Town is assessed its share of debt from other governmental entities (known as overlapping debt).

For Essex County, the Town's share of the County's \$740,000 debt is 1.27% and for the Masconomet Regional School, the Town's share of the regional school's \$100,000 debt is 25.37%.



TOWN OF MIDDLETON
BALANCE SHEET
YEAR ENDING 6/30/98

GENERAL	SPECIAL REVENUE #22-25	WATER SP REV #28	CAPITAL SCHOOL #30	ENTERPRISE #62	NON- EXPENDABLE #82 TRUSTS	EXPENDABLE TRUST FUNDS #84	STABILIZATION #85	AGENCY FUNDS #89	CAPITAL PROJECT #31 LANDFILL	LONG TERM DEBT #97	CONSERVATION LAND TRUST #88	TOTALS
ASSETS:												
CASH	3,674,849	609,257	715,815	47,237	361,510	5,098	11,758	106,817	273,592			5,805,933
PETTY CASH	275											275
RECEIVABLES												
REAL ESTATE/PERSONAL PROPERTY	4,820,352											4,820,352
LESS: ALLOW FOR ABATEMENTS	(349,462)											(349,462)
NET REAL ESTATE/PERSONAL PROPERTY	4,270,890											4,270,890
TAX TITLE	634,903											634,903
MOTOR VEHICLE EXCISE	67,545											67,545
OTHER RECEIVABLES	11,247	97,245			99,487							207,979
FIXED ASSETS					6,846,305							6,846,305
INVESTMENTS		282,789			4,474,461							5,832,424
AMOUNT TO BE PROVIDED								256,595			25,000	8,795,425
DUE TO/ FROM OTHER GOVERNMENTS		49,341								8,795,425		8,795,425
												49,341
TOTAL ASSETS	8,659,709	1,018,632	715,815	47,237	11,581,763	449,234	212,246	168,955	273,592	8,795,425	25,000	32,311,020

LIABILITIES:												
ACCRUED LIABILITIES	83,308											83,308
MISC.	(977)											(977)
DEFERRED REVENUE								7,390				7,390
REAL ESTATE/PERSONAL PROPERTY	4,270,890											4,270,890
TAX TITLE	634,903											634,903
MOTOR VEHICLES	67,545											67,545
UTILITIES & AMBULANCE	5,888	97,244		677								103,809
NOTES/BONDS PAYABLE				1,100,000				356,022				1,100,000
DEPOSITS				4,350							8,795,425	8,795,425
DUE FROM OTHER GOVERNMENTS												8,795,425
TOTAL LIABILITIES	5,061,557	97,244	0	0	1,105,027	0	0	363,412	0	0	8,795,425	15,422,665

FUND EQUITY:												
RESERVED FUND BALANCES	1,763,472	188,756										2,787,663
UNRESERVED FUND BALANCES	1,834,660	466,913										7,631,162
EXPENDITURES SPECIAL ARTICLES		649,883		4,679,688							25,000	(4,282,925)
STATE GRANTS		65,932		(4,632,449)					273,592			131,514
PRIVATE GRANTS		131,514										131,514
FEDERAL GRANTS		140,777										140,777
RETAINED EARNINGS		13428										13,428
												10,476,736
TOTAL EQUITY	3,598,152	921,388	715,815	47,237	10,476,736	449,234	212,246	168,955	0	0	25,000	16,888,355

TOTAL LIABILITIES & EQUITY	8,659,709	1,018,632	715,815	47,237	11,581,763	449,234	212,246	168,955	273,592	0	8,820,425	32,311,020
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**TOWN OF MIDDLETON
CASH RECEIPTS SUMMARY
ENDING 6/30/98**

	#1 GENERAL FUND	#22 REVOLVING FUND	#23 RECEIPTS RESERVED	#24 SCHOOL GRANTS	#25 OTHER GRANTS	#28 WATER SPECIAL RESERVE	#62 ELECTRIC FUND	#62 TRUST FUND	#84 TRUSTS	#85 STABILIZA- TION	#89 AGENCY FUND	TOTAL
TAXES:												
PERSONAL PROPERTY	167,283											167,283
REAL ESTATE	8,317,315											8,317,315
TAXES	104,957											104,957
MOTOR VEHICLE	753,876											753,876
TAX TITLE PENALTY & INTERES	32,432											32,432
PENALTY & INTEREST EXCISE	40,952											40,952
LIEU OF TAXES	92,787											92,787
TAX OFFICE FEES & CHARGES	23,801											23,801
ELECTRIC LIENS	872											872
SUBTOTAL	9,534,275											9,534,275
FEES AND CHARGES:												
ASSESSORS	148											148
TOWN CLERK	18,112											18,112
POLICE	17,178											17,178
CEMETERY	9,475											9,475
SELECTMEN	30,866											30,866
FIRE	5,106											5,106
BUILDING INSPECTOR	218,497											218,497
BOARD OF HEALTH	85,456											85,456
LANDFILL	88,521											88,521
SUBTOTAL	473,359											473,359
STATE REVENUE:												
POLICE INCENTIVE	24,773											24,773
LOCAL AID	159,272											159,272
LOTTERY	269,301											269,301
HOTEL TAX	53,811											53,811
MISC	33,387											33,387
STATE OWNED LAND	4,768											4,768
VETERANS & BLIND	1,488											1,488
ELDERLY	8,206											8,206
SCHOOL AID CHAP 70	332,062											332,062
HIGHWAY	92,631											92,631
TRANSPORTATION	38,432											38,432
TUITION STATEWARDS	1,875											1,875
MEDICAID REIMBURSEMENT	7,157											7,157
SUBTOTAL	1,027,163											1,027,163

**TOWN OF MIDDLETON
CASH RECEIPTS SUMMARY
ENDING 6/30/98**

	#1 GENERAL FUND	#22 REVOLVING FUND	#23 RECEIPTS RESERVED	#24 SCHOOL GRANTS	#25 OTHER GRANTS	#28 WATER SPECIAL RESERVE	#62 ELECTRIC FUND	#82 TRUST FUND	#84 TRUSTS	#85 STABILIZA- TION	#89 AGENCY FUND	TOTAL
OTHER REVENUES:												
POLICE FINES	44,911											44,911
POLICE MISC	6,784											6,784
ACCOUNTANT	47,593											47,593
INTEREST EARNINGS	234,437											234,437
SUBTOTAL	333,725											333,725
REFUNDS & REIMBURSEMENTS:												
EXPENDITURE REIMBURSEMENT	58,216											58,216
SUBTOTAL	58,216											58,216
PAYROLL WITHHOLDINGS:												
PAYROLL WITHHOLDINGS	2,233,178											2,233,178
SUBTOTAL	2,233,178											2,233,178
DUE TO OTHER GOVT												
WATER LIENS	9,091											9,091
SESD	775											775
SUBTOTAL	9,866											9,866
BALANCE SHEET ITEMS												
HEALTH INSURANCE	55,796											55,796
EXCHANGE	32,904											32,904
SUBTOTAL	88,700											88,700
TOTAL GENERAL FUND	13,758,482											13,758,482
FUND 22 - REVOLVING FUND:												
FIRE ALARM CONSTRUCTION		41,633										41,633
SCHOOL LUNCH		125,733										125,733
PRESCHOOL		85,402										85,402
SCHOOL MUSIC		14,357										14,357
SCHOOL PICTURES		13,146										13,146
CHILDCARE		61,213										61,213
KINDERGARTEN		54,115										54,115
RENTAL REVOLVING		5,900										5,900
TUITION REIMBURSEMENT		3,204										3,204
SUMMER PROGRAMS		3,300										3,300
CONSERVATION		6,868										6,868
TOTAL REVOLVING FUND		414,871										414,871

**TOWN OF MIDDLETON
CASH RECEIPTS SUMMARY
ENDING 6/30/98**

#1 GENERAL FUND	#22 REVOLVING FUND	#23 RECEIPTS RESERVED	#24 SCHOOL GRANTS	#25 OTHER GRANTS	#28 WATER SPECIAL RESERVE	#62 ELECTRIC FUND	#82 TRUST FUND	#84 TRUSTS	#85 STABILIZA- TION	#89 AGENCY FUND	TOTAL
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FUND 23 - REVENUE RESERVED:

AMBULANCE FEES 95,491
SALES OF LOTS & GRAVES 5,435
INTEREST 182

101,108

TOTAL REVENUES RESERVED

FUND 24 - SCHOOL GRANTS:

CURR. FRAMEWORK STUDY 4,500
CHAPTER 2 1,383
PL 94-142 47,953
TITLE I 38,666
EARLY CHILDHOOD 10,924
GUIDANCE COUNSELOR 11,009
GOVERNOR'S ALLIANCE AGAINST DRUGS 10,353
MATH IN SERVICE 1,488
TECHNOLOGY 17,460

143,736

TOTAL SCHOOL GRANTS

FUND 25 - OTHER GRANTS:

COUNCIL ON AGING 10,223
HOUSING PARTNERSHIP 6,480
DARE PROGRAM 6,000
ARTS COUNCIL 3,150
COPS FAST 12,500
POLICE COMMUNITY ACTION 11,100
TITLE III B 11,189
FIRE DEPARTMENT 4,517
LIBRARY 5,167
POLICE VESTS 1,471
POLICE, MINI 2,689
VIOLENCE AGAINST WOMEN 1,422
POLICE BLOCK GRANT 1,997
CHAPTER 90 1,622
FERNCROFT INTEREST 5,655
RECYCLING 632
CHAPTER 90 105,743
VAN DONATIONS 2,313

193,870

TOTAL OTHER GRANTS

FUND 28 - WATER:

WATER LINE PERMITS 66,750
SALE OF WATER 347,475

414,225

TOTAL WATER

**TOWN OF MIDDLETON
CASH RECEIPTS SUMMARY
ENDING 6/30/98**

#1 GENERAL FUND	#22 REVOLVING FUND	#23 RECEIPTS RESERVED	#24 SCHOOL GRANTS	#25 OTHER GRANTS	#28 WATER SPECIAL RESERVE	#62 ELECTRIC FUND	#82 TRUST FUND	#84 TRUSTS	#85 STABILIZA- TION	#89 AGENCY FUND	TOTAL
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FUND 62 - ELECTRIC:

SALE OF POWER 8,769,055
MISC. CHARGES 206,046
PRODUCTION 578,323
RATE STABILIZATION 427,433
INTEREST 73,572
M&O 71,204

TOTAL ELECTRIC

10,125,633

FUND 82 - TRUSTS

INTEREST 12,836

TOTAL FUND 82 - TRUSTS

12,836

FUND 84 - TRUSTS

SCHOLARSHIPS 1,099
PERPETUAL CARE 250
INTEREST 9,263

TOTAL FUND 84 - TRUSTS

10,612

FUND 85 - STABILIZATION INTEREST

15,402

FUND 89 - AGENCY:

FISH & GAME 5,007
MISC 1,614
GUARANTEE DEPOSITS 94,172
POLICE DETAILS 272,927
WATER LIENS 991
SESD 91,746
WATER LINES 400

TOTAL AGENCY

466,857

TOTAL

\$13,758,482 \$414,871 \$101,108 \$143,736 \$193,870 \$414,225 \$10,125,633 \$12,836 \$10,612 \$15,402 \$466,857 \$25,657,532.00

CASH DISBURSEMENTS

YEAR ENDING JUNE 30, 1998

ACCOUNT NUMBER	TITLE	CARRY FORWARD	ORIG. BUDGET	NET TRANSFERS	Y-T-D EXPENDED	ACCOUNT BALANCE
GENERAL GOVERNMENT						
5100	PERSONAL SERVICES		100		100	
114	TOWN MODERATOR		100		100	
5100	PERSONAL SERVICES		102,457		102,412	45
5200	PURCHASE OF SERVICES	3,127	17,150		18,853	1,424
5400	SUPPLIES		1,700		1,700	
5700	OTHER CHARGES & EXPENSES	1,690	32,428		29,422	4,696
5800	CAPITAL OUTLAY	60,174	35,000	20,000	73,361	41,813
122	SELECTMEN	64,991	188,735	20,000	225,749	47,977
5100	PERSONAL SERVICES		948	252	1,200	
5200	PURCHASE OF SERVICES		115			115
5400	SUPPLIES		100			100
5700	OTHER CHARGES & EXPENSES	7,000	40,150	-39,830	7,135	185
131	FINANCE COMMITTEE	7,000	41,313	-39,578	8,335	400
5100	PERSONAL SERVICES		55,066		54,986	80
5200	PURCHASE OF SERVICES	169	2,270		2,057	382
5400	SUPPLIES	549	600		792	357
5700	OTHER CHARGES & EXPENSES		225		225	
5800	CAPITAL OUTLAY		150			150
135	TOWN ACCOUNTANT	719	58,311		58,061	969
5100	PERSONAL SERVICES		72,379		68,839	3,540
5200	PURCHASE OF SERVICES	3,309	11,510	6,000	20,757	63
5400	SUPPLIES		1,550		1,550	
5700	OTHER CHARGES & EXPENSES	1,650	2,300	350	4,275	25
5800	CAPITAL OUTLAY		35,000		7,839	27,161
141	ASSESSORS	4,959	122,739	6,350	103,260	30,788
5100	PERSONAL SERVICES		93,907		93,353	554
5200	PURCHASE OF SERVICES	31,341	12,900	25,000	28,625	40,616
5400	SUPPLIES		3,000		2,790	210
5700	OTHER CHARGES & EXPENSES	3,396	425		4,385	-564
5800	CAPITAL OUTLAY		700			700
145	TREASURER/COLLECTOR	34,737	110,932	25,000	129,153	41,516
5100	PERSONAL SERVICES		1,500		1,500	
146	CUST. OF TOWN LANDS		1,500		1,500	
5100	PERSONAL SERVICES		12,200		12,200	
5200	PURCHASE OF SERVICES		9,000		9,000	
151	TOWN COUNSEL		21,200		21,200	
5100	PERSONAL SERVICES		650		650	
5400	SUPPLIES		80		80	
5700	OTHER CHARGES & EXPENSES		20		20	
152	PERSONNEL BOARD		750		750	
5100	PERSONAL SERVICES		50,512		50,511	1
5200	PURCHASE OF SERVICES	116	2,200	350	2,100	566
5400	SUPPLIES		850		842	8
5700	OTHER CHARGES & EXPENSES		400		393	7
5800	CAPITAL OUTLAY	2,598			1,463	1,135
161	TOWN CLERK	2,714	53,962	350	55,309	1,717
5100	PERSONAL SERVICES		5,455	1,630	7,085	0
5200	PURCHASE OF SERVICES	981	3,645	400	4,508	518
5400	SUPPLIES		350	100	450	
5800	CAPITAL OUTLAY		1,500		1,500	
162	ELECTIONS	981	10,950	2,130	13,542	518
5100	PERSONAL SERVICES		2,940		2,747	193
5200	PURCHASE OF SERVICES		10,900		11,021	-121
5400	SUPPLIES		200		200	
5700	OTHER CHARGES & EXPENSES		450		472	-22
5800	CAPITAL OUTLAY		50,000		50,000	
171	CONSERVATION COMMISSION		64,490		64,439	51

ACCOUNT NUMBER	TITLE	CARRY FORWARD	ORIG. BUDGET	NET TRANSFERS	Y-T-D EXPENDED	ACCOUNT BALANCE
5100	PERSONAL SERVICES		10,736		10,708	28
5200	PURCHASE OF SERVICES		2,350		1,426	924
5400	SUPPLIES		500		268	232
5700	OTHER CHARGES & EXPENSES		915		485	430
175	PLANNING BOARD		14,501		12,887	1,614
5100	PERSONAL SERVICES		8,070	1,696	9,766	
5200	PURCHASE OF SERVICES		2,800		2,243	557
5400	SUPPLIES		200		87	113
5700	OTHER CHARGES & EXPENSES		60		50	10
176	BOARD OF APPEALS		11,130	1,696	12,146	680
5200	PURCHASE OF SERVICES		100			100
181	INDUSTRIAL DEVELOPMENT COMMISSION		100			100
5100	PERSONAL SERVICES		4,600		3,435	1,165
5200	PURCHASE OF SERVICES		25,950		22,547	3,404
5400	SUPPLIES	5,138	6,100		9,828	1,409
5700	OTHER CHARGES & EXPENSES					
5800	CAPITAL OUTLAY		600		380	220
192	TOWN BUILDING	5,138	37,250		36,190	6,198
5200	PURCHASE OF SERVICES		12,500		12,226	274
195	TOWN REPORT		12,500		12,226	274
5200	PURCHASE OF SERVICES	1,140	11,000		10,900	1,240
196	AUDIT	1,140	11,000		10,900	1,240
5400	SUPPLIES		350		350	
197	CHRISTMAS LIGHTS		350		350	
5400	SUPPLIES		50,000		49,920	80
199	STREET LIGHTS		50,000		49,920	80
5100	PERSONAL SERVICES					
5400	SUPPLIES					
5800	CAPITAL OUTLAY					
420	DPW - ADMINISTRATION					
100	GENERAL GOVERNMENT	122,378	811,813	15,948	816,017	134,121
PUBLIC SAFETY						
5100	PERSONAL SERVICES	43,149	629,818	31,000	575,442	128,525
5200	PURCHASE OF SERVICES		50,700		42,741	7,959
5400	SUPPLIES		19,585		19,540	45
5700	OTHER CHARGES & EXPENSES		17,085		12,942	4,143
5800	CAPITAL OUTLAY	17,383	32,000		46,426	2,957
210	POLICE	60,533	749,188	31,000	697,092	143,629
5100	PERSONAL SERVICES	250	618,753	25,616	644,619	
5200	PURCHASE OF SERVICES	155	31,900		27,666	4,389
5400	SUPPLIES	8,500	23,150		30,850	800
5700	OTHER CHARGES & EXPENSES		4,650		4,545	105
5800	CAPITAL OUTLAY	15,799	482,500	9,000	43,242	464,057
220	FIRE	24,704	1,160,953	34,616	750,922	469,351
5100	PERSONAL SERVICES		72,549	1,605	74,154	0
5200	PURCHASE OF SERVICES		2,439		2,436	3
5400	SUPPLIES		500		492	8
5700	OTHER CHARGES & EXPENSES		6,750		6,749	1
5800	CAPITAL OUTLAY		850		850	
241	BUILDING INSPECTOR		83,088	1,605	84,681	12
5200	PURCHASE OF SERVICES		100			100
291	CIVIL DEFENSE		100			100
5100	PERSONAL SERVICES		11,878		11,878	
5200	PURCHASE OF SERVICES		4,000		3,306	694
5400	SUPPLIES		725		459	266
5700	OTHER CHARGES & EXPENSES		1,800		1,057	743
292	ANIMAL CONTROL		18,403		16,700	1,703
5100	PERSONAL SERVICES		100		100	
296	CONSTABLE		100		100	
200	PUBLIC SAFETY	85,236	2,011,832	67,221	1,549,494	614,795

ACCOUNT NUMBER	TITLE	CARRY FORWARD	ORIG. BUDGET	NET TRANSFERS	Y-T-D EXPENDED	ACCOUNT BALANCE
EDUCATION						
5100	PERSONAL SERVICES					
5600	INTERGOVERNMENTAL		164,213		164,105	108
5700	OTHER CHARGES & EXPENSES					
5800	CAPITAL OUTLAY		43,500		42,741	759
301	SCHOOL DEPARTMENT		207,713		206,846	867
5600	INTERGOVERNMENTAL		2,230,681	75,405	2,307,094	-1,008
302	MASCONOMET		2,230,681	75,405	2,307,094	-1,008
110	SCHOOL COMMITTEE		9,940		10,665	-725
120	SUPT. OFFICE		106,418		104,598	1,820
351	1000 SERIES-SCHOOL COMMITTEE		116,358		115,263	1,095
210	SUPERVISION		30,207	30,228	60,246	189
220	PRINCIPALS		165,027		164,441	586
230	TEACHING		1,802,215		1,604,469	197,746
235	TEACHING PROF. DEVELOPMENT		21,225		17,875	3,350
240	TEXTBOOKS		31,020		24,506	6,514
250	LIBRARY		33,649		27,010	6,639
260	AUDIO VISUAL		5,260		2,192	3,068
270	TESTING		3,000		2,703	297
280	PSYCHE SERVICES		4,900		6,574	-1,674
920	O.O.D. TUITION THERAPY SERVICES		157,784		166,169	-8,385
352	2000 SERIES: REG. DAY-TEACHING		2,254,287	30,228	2,076,183	208,332
320	HEALTH SERVICES		44,097		38,535	5,562
330	TRANSPORTATION		195,717		197,542	-1,825
340	CAFETERIA		7,344		7,344	
353	3000 SERIES: REG. DAY-HEALTH SERVICES		247,158		243,421	3,737
411	CUSTODIAL SERVICES		104,654		99,292	5,362
412	HEATING		35,698		43,235	-7,537
413	UTILITIES		37,110		53,763	-16,653
421	MAINTENANCE OF GROUNDS		1,220		973	247
422	MAINTENANCE OF BUILDINGS		23,200		27,014	-3,814
423	MAINTENANCE OF EQUIPMENT		16,830		23,203	-6,373
354	4000 SERIES: CUSTODIAL SERVICES		218,712		247,479	-28,767
520	INSURANCE		189,996		170,459	19,537
355	5000 SERIES: INSURANCE		189,996		170,459	19,537
700	REPAIR/REPLACE EQUIPMENT		1,800			1,800
357	7000 SERIES		1,800			1,800
300	EDUCATION		5,466,705	105,633	5,366,746	205,592

PUBLIC WORKS & FACILITIES

5100	PERSONAL SERVICES	12,000	402,121		388,955	25,166
5200	PURCHASE OF SERVICES	19,174	81,950		85,697	15,427
5400	SUPPLIES	41,005	137,450		151,431	27,024
5700	OTHER CHARGES & EXPENSES		27,300		24,020	3,280
5800	CAPITAL OUTLAY	262,878	172,500		171,295	264,084
420	DPW - ADMINISTRATION	335,058	821,321		821,398	334,981
5200	PURCHASE OF SERVICES		112,200		108,485	3,715
5400	SUPPLIES		7,000		4,920	2,080
5700	OTHER CHARGES & EXPENSES		18,500		14,454	4,046
5800	CAPITAL OUTLAY			7,500		7,500
425	TRANSFER STATION/SOLID WASTE		137,700	7,500	127,859	17,341
400	PUBLIC WORKS & FACIL.	335,058	959,021	7,500	949,257	352,322

HUMAN SERVICES

5100	PERSONAL SERVICES		60,933	1,108	60,995	1,046
5200	PURCHASE OF SERVICES	437	14,700		12,561	2,577
5400	SUPPLIES		900		1,042	-142
5700	OTHER CHARGES & EXPENSES	5,219	4,200		7,508	1,911
5800	CAPITAL OUTLAY					
511	BOARD OF HEALTH	5,656	80,733	1,108	82,105	5,393
5100	PERSONAL SERVICES	1,000	50,266	2,000	52,241	1,025
5200	PURCHASE OF SERVICES	1,442	4,360		4,260	1,542
5400	SUPPLIES		2,020		1,710	310
5700	OTHER CHARGES & EXPENSES		4,200		3,148	1,052
5800	CAPITAL OUTLAY	966	1,000		1,168	798
541	COUNCIL ON AGING	3,408	61,846	2,000	62,527	4,727

ACCOUNT NUMBER	TITLE	CARRY FORWARD	ORIG BUDGET	NET TRANSFERS	Y-T-D EXPENDED	ACCOUNT BALANCE
5100	PERSONAL SERVICES		7,120		7,120	
5200	PURCHASE OF SERVICES		105			105
5400	SUPPLIES		170			170
5700	OTHER CHARGES & EXPENSES		6,550			6,550
543	VETERANS AGENT		13,945		7,120	6,825
5200	PURCHASE OF SERVICES		17,910		17,910	
545	SOCIAL SERVICES AGENCY FUNDING		17,910		17,910	
5200	PURCHASE OF SERVICES		1,500		1,500	
546	ABUSED WOMEN		1,500		1,500	
5200	PURCHASE OF SERVICES	323	1,700		2,022	1
548	GARDEN CLUB	323	1,700		2,022	1
5200	PURCHASE OF SERVICES		2,575	10,000	6,939	5,636
549	LOCAL CABLE		2,575	10,000	6,939	5,636
5200	PURCHASE OF SERVICES		500			500
550	NO SHORE TRANSPORTATION FORCE		500			500
500	HUMAN SERVICES	9,387	180,709	13,108	180,123	23,082
CULTURE & RECREATION						
5100	PERSONAL SERVICES		148,694		139,657	9,037
5200	PURCHASE OF SERVICES		15,000		14,985	15
5400	SUPPLIES		45,200		45,194	6
5700	OTHER CHARGES & EXPENSES		700		699	1
5800	CAPITAL OUTLAY	10,100	1,500		4,013	7,588
610	LIBRARY	10,100	211,094		204,547	16,647
5100	PERSONAL SERVICES	849	5,926	2,800	5,651	3,924
5200	PURCHASE OF SERVICES		5,850		5,128	722
5400	SUPPLIES		900		889	11
5700	OTHER CHARGES & EXPENSES		4,825		4,518	307
630	RECREATION COMMISSION	849	17,501	2,800	16,186	4,963
5200	PURCHASE OF SERVICES	589	300			889
691	HISTORICAL COMMISSION	589	300			889
5700	OTHER CHARGES & EXPENSES	359	3,000		1,055	2,304
692	MEMORIAL DAY	359	3,000		1,055	2,304
600	CULTURE & RECREATION	11,897	231,895	2,800	221,788	24,804
DEBT SERVICE						
5900	DEBT SERVICE		787,365		757,834	29,531
710	DEBT SERVICE		787,365		757,834	29,531
5900	DEBT SERVICE					
750	INTEREST					
700	DEBT SERVICE TOTALS		787,365		757,834	29,531
INTERGOVERNMENTAL						
5600	INTERGOVERNMENTAL				6,204	-6,204
820	STATE ASSESS. & CHARGES				6,204	-6,204
5600	INTERGOVERNMENTAL				48,674	-48,674
830	COUNTY ASSESS. & CHARGES				48,674	-48,674
5600	INTERGOVERNMENTAL				116,550	-116,550
840	OTHER ASSESS. & CHARGES				116,550	-116,550
800	INTERGOVERNMENTAL EXPENSES				171,427	-171,427

ACCOUNT NUMBER	TITLE	CARRY FORWARD	ORIG. BUDGET	NET TRANSFERS	Y-T-D EXPENDED	ACCOUNT BALANCE
MISCELLANEOUS						
5100	PERSONAL SERVICES		286,000	1,423	287,423	
911	RETIREMENT		286,000	1,423	287,423	
5100	PERSONAL SERVICES				394	-394
5700	OTHER CHARGES AND EXPENSES		7,000		4,412	2,588
913	UNEMPLOYMENT		7,000		4,806	2,194
5100	PERSONAL SERVICES					
5700	OTHER CHARGES AND EXPENSES	25,000	186,000		203,892	7,108
914	HEALTH INSURANCE	25,000	186,000		203,892	7,108
5100	PERSONAL SERVICES					
5700	OTHER CHARGES AND EXPENSES		3,500		2,557	943
915	LIFE INSURANCE		3,500		2,557	943
5100	PERSONAL SERVICES					
5700	OTHER CHARGES AND EXPENSES		20,000		18,246	1,754
916	MEDICARE/DEP TAX		20,000		18,246	1,754
5700	OTHER CHARGES & EXPENSES	25,000	86,500		67,080	44,420
945	LIABILITY INSURANCE	25,000	86,500		67,080	44,420
900	MISCELLANEOUS TOTAL	50,000	589,000	1,423	584,004	56,419

REFUNDS

1210	PERSONAL PROPERTY TAXES				170	-170
1220	REAL ESTATE TAXES				116,440	-116,440
1260	MOTOR VEHICLE EXCISE				14,290	-14,290
971	TAX REFUNDS				130,900	-130,900
970	REFUNDS TOTAL				130,900	-130,900
2100	PAYROLL WITHHOLDINGS				2,233,178	-2,233,178
981	PAYROLL WITHHOLDING TURNOVERS				2,233,178	-2,233,178
2400	DUE TO OTHER GOVERNMENTS				53,780	-53,780
2580	OTHER LIABILITIES				73	-73
2700	NOTES PAYABLE					
3590	UNDESIGNATED FUND BALANCE				28,543	-28,543
3900	FUND BALANCE ACTUAL				4,255	-4,255
4980	TRANSFER TO OTHER FUNDS				1,082	-1,082
983	OTHER ITEMS				87,733	-87,733
2580	OTHER LIABILITIES				39,956	-39,956
984	BALANCE SHEET RECEIPTS				39,956	-39,956
980	BALANCE SHEET ITEMS				2,360,867	-2,360,867
1	GENERAL FUND TOTAL	613,956	11,038,340	213,633	13,088,458	(1,222,529)

PUBLIC SAFETY

5800	CAPITAL OUTLAY				11,257	-11,257
221	FIRE ALARM INSTALLATIONS				11,257	-11,257
200	PUBLIC SAFETY TOTAL				11,257	-11,257

REVOLVING FUNDS

4270	OTHER CHARGES FOR SERVICES					
5100	PERSONAL SERVICES				2,393	-2,393
5700	OTHER CHARGES & EXPENSES					
301	SCHOOL DEPARTMENT				2,393	-2,393
5100	PERSONAL SERVICES				53,182	-53,182
5400	SUPPLIES				62,228	-62,228
303	SCHOOL LUNCH				115,410	-115,410
5100	PERSONAL SERVICES				74,256	-74,256
5400	SUPPLIES				721	
306	PRE SCHOOL PROGRAM				74,977	-74,977
5400	SUPPLIES				29,398	-29,398
307	HOWE-MANNING REVOLVING A/C				29,398	-29,398

ACCOUNT NUMBER	TITLE	CARRY FORWARD	ORIG. BUDGET	NET TRANSFERS	Y-T-D EXPENDED	ACCOUNT BALANCE
5100	PERSONAL SERVICES				25,229	-25,229
5400	SUPPLIES				6,867	-6,867
5700	OTHER CHARGES AND EXPENSES				10,000	-10,000
308	HOWE MANNING CHILD CARE				42,096	-42,096
5100	PERSONAL SERVICES				18,301	-18,301
5100	SUPPLIES				3,203	-3,203
5700	OTHER CHARGES AND EXPENSES				15,100	-15,100
309	KINDERGARTEN ACTIVITIES				36,604	-36,604
5100	PERSONAL SERVICES				2,940	-2,940
5400	SUPPLIES				180	-180
310	SUMMER PROGRAMS				3,120	-3,120
5100	PERSONAL SERVICES				3,689	-3,689
5700	OTHER CHARGES AND EXPENSES				3,022	-3,022
311	RENTAL REVOLVING				6,711	-6,711
300	EDUCATION				310,709	-310,709
22	REVOLVING FUNDS TOTAL				321,966	-321,966

RECEIPTS RESERVED FOR APPROP.

5700	OTHER CHARGES & EXPENSES				1,649	-1,649
5800	CAPITAL OUTLAY					
220	FIRE				1,649	-1,649
200	PUBLIC SAFETY				1,649	-1,649
5700	OTHER CHARGES & EXPENSES				375	-375
5800	CAPITAL OUTLAY					
492	LOTS AND GRAVES				375	-375
400	PUBLIC WORKS AND FACILITIES				375	-375
23	RECEIPTS RESERVED FOR APPROP TOTAL				2,024	-2,024

SCHOOL GRANTS

5100	PERSONAL SERVICES	-227			2,373	-2,600
301	SCHOOL DEPARTMENT	-227			2,373	-2,600
5100	PERSONAL SERVICES	91			1,313	-1,222
5400	SUPPLIES					
316	CHAP. 11 ECIA PL97-35	91			1,313	-1,222
5100	PERSONAL SERVICES					
317	PROF. DEVELOPMENT					
5100	PERSONAL SERVICES	1,493			47,270	-45,777
5200	PURCHASE OF SERVICES					
5400	SUPPLIES					
321	PL 94-142	1,493			47,270	-45,777
5100	PERSONAL SERVICES	1,556			38,272	-36,716
5400	SUPPLIES				1,062	-1,062
322	TITLE 1 LOW INCOME	1,556			39,334	-37,778
5100	PERSONAL SERVICES					
5400	SUPPLIES					
323	PER PUPIL ED. AID					
5100	PERSONAL SERVICES				3,049	-3,049
5400	SUPPLIES					
324	M.I.T. BOND TECHNOLOGY GRANT				3,049	-3,049
5100	PERSONAL SERVICES	621			11,128	-10,507
5400	SUPPLIES					
327	CH 188 EARLY CHILDHD GRANT	621			11,128	-10,507
5100	PERSONAL SERVICES	-155			-155	
328	SPED EARLY CHILDHD COORD.	-155			-155	

ACCOUNT NUMBER	TITLE	CARRY FORWARD	ORIG. BUDGET	NET TRANSFERS	Y-T-D EXPENDED	ACCOUNT BALANCE
5100	PERSONAL SERVICES				9,740	-9,740
5200	PURCHASE OF SERVICES					
329	GOV. ALLIANCE AGNT DRUGS				9,740	-9,740
5100	PERSONAL SERVICES				1,198	-1,198
333	MATH IN SERVICE TRAINING				1,198	-1,198
5100	PERSONAL SERVICES					
334	LANG. LEARNING DISABLED CHILD					
5100	PERSONAL SERVICES				11,009	-11,009
339	GUIDANCE COUNSELOR				11,009	-11,009
300	EDUCATION	3,379			126,258	-122,880
24	SCHOOL GRANTS TOTAL	3,379			126,258	-122,880
OTHER GRANTS						
4540	FEDERAL REVENUE - DIRECT				6,480	-6,480
5400	SUPPLIES					
5800	CAPITAL OUTLAY				7,820	-7,820
122	SELECTMEN				14,300	-14,300
5200	PURCHASE OF SERVICES				2,830	-2,830
136	ARTS LOTTERY COUNCIL				2,830	-2,830
100	GENERAL GOVERNMENT				17,130	-17,130
4680	OTHER STATE REVENUE				91	-91
5100	PERSONAL SERVICES				28,094	-28,094
5400	SUPPLIES				4,849	-4,849
5800	CAPITAL OUTLAY				12,559	-12,559
210	POLICE				45,593	-45,593
5800	CAPITAL OUTLAY				2,823	-2,823
220	FIRE				2,823	-2,823
200	PUBLIC SAFETY				48,417	-48,417
300	EDUCATION					
5400	SUPPLIES					
5800	CAPITAL OUTLAY	25,616	192,582		74,568	143,630
420	DPW-ADMINISTRATION	25,616	192,582		74,568	143,630
5700	OTHER CHARGES AND EXPENSES				632	-632
425	TRANSFER STATION/SOLID WASTE				632	-632
5800	CAPITAL OUTLAY		200,000			
451	WATER DEPARTMENT		200,000			
400	PUBLIC WORKS & FACILITIES	25,616	392,582		75,200	342,998
5100	PERSONAL SERVICES					
5700	OTHER CHARGES AND EXPENSES					
5800	CAPITAL OUTLAY					
511	BOARD OF HEALTH					
5200	PURCHASE OF SERVICES				3,038	-3,038
541	COUNCIL ON AGING				3,038	-3,038
500	HUMAN SERVICES				3,038	-3,038
5800	CAPITAL OUTLAY					
610	LIBRARY					
5200	PURCHASE OF SERVICES				3,389	-3,389
613	LIBRARY MEG/LIG GRANTS				3,389	-3,389
600	CULTURE AND RECREATION				3,389	-3,389
OTHER GRANTS TOTAL		25,616	392,582		147,174	271,024

ACCOUNT NUMBER	TITLE	CARRY FORWARD	ORIG. BUDGET	NET TRANSFERS	Y-T-D EXPENDED	ACCOUNT BALANCE
WATER SPECIAL REVENUE						
5100	PERSONAL SERVICES		32,602		27,590	5,012
5200	PURCHASE OF SERVICES		750		575	175
5400	SUPPLIES	40,999	20,000		31,123	29,876
5700	OTHERS CHARGES & EXPENSES		500		465	35
5800	CAPITAL OUTLAY	53,246			17,191	36,055
5900	DEBT SERVICE		65,070		34,019	31,051
451	WATER DEPARTMENT	94,245	118,922		110,962	102,205
400	PUBLIC WORKS AND FACIL.	94,245	118,922		110,962	102,205
28	WATER SPECIAL REVENUE TOTAL	94,245	118,922		110,962	102,205
CAPITAL PROJECTS FUND						
5900	DEBT SERVICE					
122	SELECTMEN					
49	OTHER FINANCING SOURCES					
5800	CAPITAL OUTLAY				453,807	-453,807
301	SCHOOL DEPARTMENT				453,807	-453,807
300	EDUCATION				453,807	-453,807
5800	CAPITAL OUTLAY					
511	BOARD OF HEALTH					
500	HUMAN SERVICES					
30	CAPITAL PROJECTS FUND TOTAL				453,807	-453,807
CAPITAL PROJECTS						
5800	CAPITAL OUTLAY	474,848			201,256	273,592
122	SELECTMEN	474,848			201,256	273,592
100	GENERAL GOVERNMENT	474,848			201,256	273,592
5800	CAPITAL OUTLAY					
511	BOARD OF HEALTH					
500	HUMAN SERVICES					
31	CAPITAL PROJECTS TOTAL	474,848			201,256	273,592
ELECTRIC LIGHT PLANT						
5100	PERSONAL SERVICES				641,712	-641,712
5200	PURCHASE OF SERVICES				7,392,643	-7,392,643
5700	OTHER CHARGES & EXPENSES				1,118,931	-1,118,931
5800	CAPITAL OUTLAY					
5900	DEBT SERVICE				137,350	-137,350
460	ELECTRIC LIGHT DEPARTMENT				9,290,636	-9,290,636
62	PUBLIC WORKS AND FACILITIES				9,290,636	-9,290,636
NON-EXPENDABLE TRUST FUND						
5200	PURCHASE OF SERVICES				3,986	-3,986
631	MANSFIELD CHARITY FUND				3,986	-3,986
600	CULTURE AND RECREATION				3,986	-3,986
82	NON-EXPENDABLE TRUST FUND TOTAL				3,986	-3,986
EXPENDABLE TRUST FUND						
5100	PERSONAL SERVICES					
193	UNEMPLOYMENTS FUND					
100	GENERAL GOVERNMENT					
5700	OTHER CHARGES AND EXPENSES				1,800	-1,800
304	SCHOLARSHIP FUND				1,800	-1,800

ACCOUNT NUMBER	TITLE	CARRY FORWARD	ORIG. BUDGET	NET TRANSFERS	Y-T-D EXPENDED	ACCOUNT BALANCE
300	EDUCATION				1,800	-1,800
2401	DUE FROM GENERAL FUND					
983	OTHER ITEMS					
980	BALANCE SHEET ITEMS					
84	EXPENDABLE TRUST FUNDS				1,800	-1,800
STABILIZATION FUND						
5960	INTERFUND TRANSFERS					
122	SELECTION					
100	GENERAL GOVERNMENT					
85	STABILIZATION FUND					
AGENCY FUND						
4840	OTHER MISC. REVENUE				5,243	-5,243
161	TOWN CLERK				5,243	-5,243
2500	OTHER LIABILITIES	3,740			-3,740	7,480
2550	GUARANTEE DEPOSITS	48,968		64,740	46,066	67,642
175	PLANNING BOARD	52,708		64,740	42,326	75,122
2550	GUARANTEE DEPOSITS					
511	BOARD OF HEALTH					
100	GENERAL GOVERNMENT	52,708		64,740	47,569	69,880
2550	GUARANTEE DEPOSITS				2,000	-2,000
420	DPW-ADMINISTRATION				2,000	-2,000
2550	GUARANTEE DEPOSITS					
451	WATER DEPARTMENT					
400	PUBLIC WORKS AND FACILITIES				2,000	-2,000
2580	OTHER LIABILITIES				260,356	-260,356
982	OUTSIDE DETAIL TURNS				260,356	-260,356
1331	WATER LIENS					
2400	DUE TO OTHER GOVERNMENTS				51,994	-51,994
983	OTHER ITEMS				51,994	-51,994
980	BALANCE SHEET ITEMS				314,350	-314,350
89	AGENCY FUNDS TOTAL	52,708		64,740	361,918	-244,470
TOWN TOTAL						
		1,264,752	11,549,844	278,373	24,110,247	-11,017,278

TAX COLLECTOR / TREASURER

The Collector / Treasurers' office reported collections of \$9,313,148.03 this year. This represents a 16.3% increase in collections over the previous year.

Real Estate taxes remain the principal source of revenue for the Town of Middleton with \$8,412,741.00 being committed for collection. The unpaid balance of the 1998 Real Estate as of 6/30/98 was \$284,753.00, or 3.4% of the Total Levy.

Collections through 6/30/98 were as follows:

1998 Excise Tax	\$504,414.00
1998 Real Estate	\$8,104,271.00
1998 Personal Property	\$165,811.77
1998 Water Liens	\$6,655.28

Collections for previous years:

Excise Tax	\$246,322.15
Real Estate	\$213,043.99
Personal Property	\$1,471.56
Water Liens	2,166.46

We continue to monitor all delinquent accounts very closely. This year \$40,952.02 was collected in interest from overdue accounts. Through the Registry of Motor Vehicles Non-Renewal Program 184 delinquent Excise bills were collected. This is a very effective means of collection. The success of this program is that it can be accessed by any state to verify if any outstanding warrants, suspended registrations or license restrictions apply. This year collections were made on excise dating back to 1985, a strong indication of the effectiveness of this program.



SCHOLARSHIP

We are extremely happy to state that the scholarship contributions of \$1099.00 were the highest on record, exceeding last year by \$110.00. A big **Thank-you** to all who contributed.

TAX TITLE

This year we placed 13 new parcels into tax title in the amount of \$15,564.00 and certified accounts for 1998 in the amount of \$46,084.25. The total tax title portfolio is 50 parcels for \$306,101.79, plus liens of \$2,239.19. Included in this total is the Rubchinuk property which represents \$90,570.42 in taxes only, and 3 parcels of owner unknown properties for \$55,570.52. Seventeen parcels remain at the Land Court for final foreclosure.

THE FUTURE

There is only one objective to be accomplished next year-to replace an aging and continually problematic computer system. With the problems that arise because of Y2K, it will be the main focus of this department to accomplish this, along with all the financial departments of the Town of Middleton.

OTHER VITAL INFORMATION

as of June 30, 1998

Cash and Investment Balances to the General Ledger	\$11,631,193.00
Earned Interest	\$234,437.00
Collection on Tax Accounts	\$104,956.00
Stabilization Funds	\$168,955.00

**THE FOLLOWING IS A LIST OF ALL TOWN EMPLOYEES AND THEIR EARNINGS FOR THE
CALENDAR YEAR ENDING DECEMBER 31, 1998**

Ajootian	Paul	14,772.96	Christopher	Eric	15,507.01
Ajootian	Richard O.	683.33	Church	Judy E.	49,355.77
Aldenberg	Robert	44,290.38	Ciampa	Kathy M.	6,591.44
Aldenberg	Robert	22,322.23	Ciman	Wanda L.	1,829.50
Aloisio	Jane F.	288.00	Cleveland	Tracy N.	27,822.89
Amero	Mary Anne	54,288.39	Clinch, 3rd	Charles	12,101.64
Anderson	Aniela E.	1,121.25	Clinch, 4th	Charles	8,783.39
Anderson	Dian A.	2,279.00	Clinch III	Charles	850.00
Anderson	Victoria P.	28.88	Clinth, 4th	Charles	3,621.76
Antonucci	Frank V.	825.00	Clough	Craig W.	11,945.55
Anzalone	Eugene A.	3,016.44	Clough	William	19,120.81
Anzalone	Steven	1,928.16	Cloutier	Michael J.	49,302.55
Arathuzik	David E.	31,599.92	Coburn	Laura A.	614.50
Arathuzik	David E.	5,231.25	Colby	Jeannette	1,036.89
Armitage	Paul	64,154.40	Colosi	Joanne M.	3,123.75
Ashley	Irene J.	5,108.42	Connelly	Joseph J.	19,453.40
Avery	Nancy A.	3,195.97	Corey	William	108.00
Bakoian	Eileen	427.71	Corey	William	5,281.98
Barber	Jeffrey	18,839.89	Corey	William	66,336.86
Barber	Jeffrey	8,254.26	Cormier	Leo	43,421.56
Barber	Jeffrey	2,339.82	Cornell	Linda	450.00
Barnes	Jill F.	220.00	Cornell	Linda M.	24,488.83
Baron	John P.	2,180.00	Correia	Manuel F.	9,738.12
Bastable	Alison	3,070.72	Corso	Lisa M.	562.50
Baxter	Malvena M.	16,865.35	Costas	Susan F.	35,905.80
Beaulieu	Laurie J.	10,460.58	Costigan	Charles	6,220.61
Beauparlant	H. Peter	3,489.44	Costigan	Charles	915.50
Beauparlant	Matthew C.	40.50	Costigan	Judy A.	3,547.38
Begin	Stacey	37,073.09	Courtney, Sr.	Kenneth A.	1,296.00
Belgiorno	Stephen P.	52,557.66	Couture	Ann M.	191.25
Bernhard	James D.	2,700.00	Couture	Ann M.	7,283.00
Bernhard	James D.	4,171.20	Creeden	Bernard F.	21,652.62
Bertino	Anthony G.	31,339.07	Cressman	Patricia K.	5,339.43
Besen	Lisa A.	13,450.78	Cronin	Arlene R.	220.00
Bilicki	Janet M.	8,605.10	Crounse	Janice A.	55.00
Blaus	Eduards E.	1,609.00	Cunningham	Kristeen Y.	466.64
Boardman	Myrtle	90.85	Currier	Carolyn	196.83
Boni	Melanie J.	325.00	Currier	Robert A.	44,386.56
Bouchard	Andrew	2,815.78	Currier	Robert A.	2,651.50
Bova	Christopher M.	24,903.55	D'Alesio	Anne Marie	550.00
Brochu	Kathryn	17,569.72	Dalton	Pamela	7,603.47
Brooks	Anne M.	3,234.01	Daly	Jill H.	25.00
Brunaccini	Kathleen	10,141.70	Daniels	Anne Farrell	16,809.62
Brunaccini	Kathleen	87.06	Darrah	Suzanne B.A.	82.50
Butt	Jennifer E.	1,501.51	Dascoli	Stacy	110.52
Cameron	Debra	35,625.80	D'Avanzo	Cheryl S.	7,481.60
Carbone	Deborah	500.04	Davie	Theresa	34,046.25
Carpenter	Ronald	24,408.00	Davis	Mary P.	4,843.00
Carpenter	Ronald S.	61,335.04	Dealy	Ruth O.	30,979.27
Carter	Aimee L.	12,564.97	DeCosta	James	2,106.00
Cashman	Shirley	27,660.02	DeCosta	James	40,978.09
Cashman	William F.	12,210.66	Deeley	Barbara	41,005.83
Cerullo	Mary Ellen	1,795.32	Delleire	Jane M.	100.00
Christianson	Christina J.	9,690.58	Dellea	Cindy	10,299.96
			DiGianvittorio	James	4,895.50

DiGianvittorio	James	60,166.48	Gravallese	Muriel V.	20,142.36
DiPaolo	Stephen P.	2,451.40	Gray	William F.	4,105.96
Ditto	Jane	54,288.39	Green	Diane	66.75
Divaio	Kathleen M.	3,974.40	Green	Diane	1,745.01
Donovan	Douglas H.	2,718.74	Griffith	John S.	2,608.32
Doogan	Margaret A.	54.00	Griffith	John S.	10,732.50
Dow, Sr.	George E.	132.49	Guglielmi	Anthony	5,263.56
Driscoll	Catherine	51,488.45	Gulino	Kathleen J.	328.00
Drysdale	Roger E.	300.00	Guthrie	Carol A.	9,701.50
Dube	Patricia	199.50	Hackett	Renee D.	1,595.00
Dupont	Cynthia A.	11,510.50	Hagan	Virginia J.	4,704.26
Durham	Stephen H.	704.16	Haines	Patricia R.	17,264.61
Ellert	Lucinda J.	11,650.00	Haley	Gayle	1,686.00
Enos	Susan A.	12,677.00	Haley	Gayle F.	50,522.66
Famolare	Cynthia A.	744.00	Hall	Carol H.	24.00
Farley	George	7,227.04	Halsey	Susan H.	13,878.50
Farley	Gwen	2,128.43	Hamilton	Paula L.	10,354.27
Farley	Mary	2,695.01	Hannon	James	10,871.41
Farley	Mary	10,041.19	Hawkes	Dina A.	24,036.24
Ferreira	Leonard	1,888.92	Heckman	Elizabeth	12,056.50
Ferreira	Leonard	108.00	Hekimian	Diane	48,588.41
Ferreira	Leonard J.	58,409.51	Hobey	Kelly A.	36,823.17
Fisher	Denise M.	5,593.50	Hocter	Lorayne	132.49
Fitzpatrick	Michelle M.	68,192.02	Hocter	Mary	1,335.00
Fitzpatrick	Terry	27.50	Hoffman	Cindy	1,379.70
Fitzpatrick	Terry Ann	406.00	Holmes	Tracy B.	6,863.11
Fitzpatrick	Terry Ann	5,534.18	Horne	Jarrod N.	2,064.00
Flynn	Lesley A.	1,729.50	Horvath	Robert B.	4,510.52
Flynn	Patti A.	9,830.54	Huapaya	Carolyn M.	99.00
Focks	Cynthia	3,096.04	Hull	Greg	10,151.38
Fontaine	Violet	75.70	Hurter	Lisa N.	1,341.18
Forrest	Debra	150.00	Husson	Kevin M.	34,941.40
Fotino	Roger D.	9,178.57	Huston	Chrisopher J.	7,606.69
Francis	Peter B.	8,408.96	Inglis	Grace I.	2,166.09
Frazier	Rachel	5,550.01	Innis	Donna	31,858.79
Freedman	Helen L.	27,264.60	Jackson	Garry	12,303.78
Fuller	Jennifer	41,338.47	Johnson	Claudia	22,952.44
Gallagher	Christine M.	28,772.09	Johnson	Corey	208.76
Gallerie	Judy	19,025.93	Jones	Alfred	10,720.00
Garber	Joan	22,068.17	Jones	John	48,794.39
Gardner	Karen L.	3,615.92	Jones	John	4,846.50
Garland	Sally A.	385.00	Jones	Nancy	12,489.96
Gauthier	Bessilia A.	1,061.53	Karolides	Nancy	1,335.00
Gentile	Louis R.	25,046.40	Kassiotis	Richard	1,979.15
George	Sarah	460.00	Kassiotis	Richard	850.00
George	Sarah B.	35,059.96	Kassiotis, Jr.	Richard	1,147.50
Gerrior	Karen	1,335.00	Kassiotis, Jr.	Richard W.	2,926.66
Gettings	Patricia	3,668.50	Kelleher	Doreen K.	1,350.00
Gettings	Patricia	75.70	Kelley	Brian J.	3,331.68
Gibbons	Kenneth J.	46,904.22	Kelley	Brian J.	8,007.50
Gilardi	Jennifer	19,820.55	Kelley	James	3,130.71
Gillespie	Cheryl L.	8,170.70	Kelley	James	1,425.50
Gorman	Katherine H.	12,080.79	Kelley	Patricia	500.00
Gould	Laura	110.52	Kelly	Mark T.	84,611.35
Gould	Ricky	34,779.26	Kennedy	Louise	37,450.06
Grady	Ruth	50.00	Kilroy	Paul G.	65,291.49
Grant	Dawn M.	1,630.54	King	Louise	54,488.39

Kolodziej	Suzanne M.	351.00
Kraulitis-Deller	Ingrida	100.00
Kunz	Arlene	37.85
L'Abbe	Jeffrey T.	3,055.00
L'Abbe	Scott J.	5,184.93
Lacey	Gary K.	2,777.28
Lacey	Gary K.	8,082.50
Lake	Robert	1,761.48
Langis	Sally	117.34
Lawrence	Tammy A.	1,927.42
Leary	David	27,450.08
Leary	David T.	44,626.89
Leary	Florence M.	27,435.25
LeColst	Douglas K.	4,951.04
LeColst	Douglas K.	3,818.51
LeColst	Douglas K.	13,842.28
LeColst	Kenneth	35,891.78
LeColst	Kenneth S.	14,368.61
LeDuc	James A.	2,508.00
LeDuc	James A.	1,026.00
Lemire	Gwen K.	40.00
Lemoine	Tara A.	1,012.00
Lenehan	Beverly J.	230.92
Lennon	Diane	10,896.84
Lenzie	A. David	850.00
Lenzie	Jacqueline	31,454.49
Levesque	Linda M.	399.00
Lightbown	Dianne	74.25
Linscott	Patricia A.	5,451.93
Linscott	Patricia A.	1,299.40
Lishner	Sheila A.	5,639.25
Lopez	Margaret V.	19.13
Lordan	Jeanne	36,305.81
Lordan	Megan M.	940.16
Lougee	George A.	6,030.36
Lucey	Sandi	50.00
MacDonald	Tricia L.	50.00
MacGregor	Joshua R.	1,298.00
Mack	Ann M.	60.00
MacLeod	Patricia L.	1,325.54
Magnifico	Justin A.	280.17
Mahajan	Linda P.	1,110.75
Mahoney	Virginia E.	170.50
Mals	Michele M.	33,615.87
Maribito	Carolyn R.	51.56
Marques	Gary W.	13,963.20
Marshall	Dale	25,205.48
Masi	Sandra J.	15,982.71
Masse	Jason J.	4,150.86
Mathews	Douglas H.	300.00
Martinuk	Thomas	9,309.60
Martinuk	Thomas J.	14,335.30
Martinuk	Thomas J.	6,814.70
Matthews	Shirley	20,613.50
Matvichuk	Patricia C.	59.82
McCarthy	Faith J.	8,083.56
McCarthy	Ryan	3,664.39
McCarthy	Sharon M.	1,298.82

McCormack	Lily G.	28,397.40
McCormack	Lily G.	2,560.36
McGann	Kevin J.	15,120.08
McHugh	Dolores	80.00
McParland	Nancy Ann	32,964.88
McParland	Thomas M.	34,800.70
McParland	Thomas M.	17,628.10
Meads	Roberta M.	831.88
Mears	Marissa M.	133.88
Melancon	Cynthia J.	37,255.81
Mendes	Richard	972.00
Mendes	Richard A.	3,841.97
Michalski, Jr.	Henry	59,591.54
Michalski, Jr.	Henry	2,350.00
Miller	Carlotta S.	54,358.39
Miller	James	6,885.65
Mills	Heide F.	442.08
Moline	Pamela J.	30,160.10
Mollica	Laurie A.	1,212.25
Montani	Ann M.	24,213.43
Morin	Kimberly A.	29,855.69
Morin, Sr.	Ernest V.	32,618.43
Morrin	Mary Jane	220.00
Morrin	Mary Jane	799.98
Morrin	Mary Jane	637.74
Mortalo	Maria	1,030.56
Mortalo	Maureen	1,622.88
Mortalo	Michael C.	2,579.12
Mugford	William	35,602.45
Muise	James A.	880.35
Muise	James A.	5,419.53
Mulligan	Eileen	34,473.78
Mullin	Elizabeth A.	601.72
Murphy	Robert	44,770.77
Murphy	Shirley	14,749.94
Musto	Randy	120.00
Napieracz	Beverly	54,288.39
Nash	Richard F.	11,232.50
Neal	Priscilla C.	1,452.00
Newbegin	Susan E.	580.00
Newhall	Andrea	30,600.43
Newhall	Charles W.	40,781.75
Newhall	Karen L.	21,259.34
Nicholls	Gail S.	764.39
Norris	Julie S.	29,783.25
Novakowski	Frances J.	1,901.58
O'Brien	Stephen R.	31,155.86
O'Connell	Timothy	40,656.86
O'Connell	Timothy	18,075.08
O'Connor	Jeralyn	47,280.77
O'Connor	John J.	10,723.18
O'Dowd	Jeanne A.	11,987.50
Ogden	David B.	44,832.24
Ogden, Jr.	David	31,229.71
Ohlson	Patricia	1,999.92
O'Leary	Cheryl A.	4,313.40
Olmsted	Susan A.	16,899.27
O'Neil	William	14,697.36

O'Neil	William P.	40,044.33
Osgood	Glenn S.	31,604.98
Pascoe	Gregg A.	5,641.26
Pascucci	Arete H.	2,086.00
Pascucci	Joseph	966.72
Pazar	Janet A.	96.00
Pazdziorny	Deborah B.	5,186.10
Peachey	Betty M.	75.70
Peachey, Jr.	Robert	13,872.50
Peachey, Jr.	Robert T.	46,343.65
Pecci	Meredith E.	33,555.79
Pelletier	Albert G.	3,830.75
Pelletier	Andrea L.	348.44
Pelletier	Marie G.	36,602.93
Pelletier	Patricia H.	16,794.82
Pelrine	Mary	275.00
Pelrine	Mary	52,255.78
Perry	Trudi	1,323.00
Pierce	Frances B.	46,505.85
Piraino	Deborah	573.00
Piraino	Deborah F.	135.70
Piro	Denise C.	2,377.00
Poirier	Jeanne	52,938.42
Poirier	Jeanne	350.00
Poirier-L'Abbe	Seth Z.	699.96
Pollock	Sandra A.	7,521.88
Pollock	Sandra A.	427.71
Porter	Ellen B.	627.95
Powers	Bernadette M.	292.50
Prentakis	Konstantinos E.	500.04
Pride	Matthew W.	58,220.43
Putnam	Barbara A.	30,925.61
Quinn	Nicole K.	4,867.50
Reis	Thomas M.	7,896.00
Repucci	Linda M.	5,891.63
Rezza	John F.	6,933.18
Richardson	Ann	6,782.22
Riley	Janet	49,592.27
Rodham	Karen	102.20
Rogers	Jane V.	16,607.59
Rogers	June M.	778.54
Rollins	Kenneth D.	57,659.63
Rosenthal	Judith	1,205.00
Roy	Dennis R.	54,755.52
Rubchinuk	Sandra M.	34,347.99
Ruetter	Barbara	5,706.30
Ryan	Heather A.	8,110.85
SantaMaria	David P.	1,923.00
Saulnier	Raymond L.	9,800.23
Saulnier	Raymond L.	297.00
Saulnier	Scott	36,043.10

Scott	Frank D.	6,602.45
Segal	Jerome A.	12,383.00
Seymour	Dawn	165.00
Shamon	Joel F.	300.00
Shea	Barbara E.	2,129.75
Shininger	Deanne	38,545.47
Silva	Cheryl	39,257.50
Singer	Ira S.	61,398.79
Skinner	Thomas E.	750.00
Skory	Steven A.	27,177.25
Skory	Steven A.	4,819.50
Sliney	Brant M.	8,061.76
Smith	Heather G.	226.00
Smith	William	7,108.02
Snavely	Lindsey D.	10,013.90
Sooaar	Susan A.	3,714.98
Standring	Sheila	54,288.39
Stevens	Barry T.	43,781.92
Stickney	Kris Anne	6,077.43
Straub	Paulette F.	110.00
Sweeney	Tynne R.	15,057.16
Swift	Loretta B.	2,123.00
Swift	Marcia	9,285.34
Szezechowicz	Andrea	42.00
Taylor	Ruth E.	48.00
Thibault, Jr.	David M.	699.96
Thurber	Nancy L.	4,831.00
Tonello	Lorraine R.H.	24,434.40
Tragert	Henry A.	100.00
Turgeon	Danielle M.	190.50
Turner	Meredith	22,579.14
Turvin	Susan G.	806.08
Tusini	Katherine M.	168.64
Twing	Amanda L.	638.56
Twiss	Frank	850.00
Twiss	Frank	41,134.74
Twiss	Frank	19,743.40
Twombly	Carol	9,468.48
Valacer	Gimmie Sue	600.00
Valcourt	Antonette	6,629.74
Warnock	Christina K.	168.00
Watson	Marion C.	1,596.00
Webb	Cheri L.	12,359.91
Wells	Cecily	128.70
Wheatley	Janet C.	87.06
White	Carolyn	41,238.47
White	Patrick M.	178.20
Wiberg	Cheryl M.	1,458.84
Williamson	Joyce	52,013.45
Wojciechowski	Christine S.	10,520.83
Woodbury, Jr.	Paul F.	600.00
Wronski	Michelle M.	765.02





ANIMAL CONTROL OFFICER



This year I feel compelled to tell a short story that turns into a good lesson and has a very happy ending. Just recently, several area ACOs and I were invited to Newburyport for the grand opening of their new regional kennel.

While looking around, I noticed a very sad, but handsome rottweiler sitting in one of the cages. In questioning about his status, we were told his time has been up for a few days. He had been picked up near the Newbury State Police Barracks two weeks prior. Standing there letting him lick my hand, it dawned on me that I had received a call from a Danvers' family stating that their beloved Max had been stolen from their yard. I quickly called the Danvers Police to get their telephone number. To make this story shorter than it could be, there were sobs of joy in Max's home and cheers in the kennel. Max had been found!

The lessons that can be gained by this story are never stop looking for a lost pet, and don't stop with one or two towns. Pets can travel or be taken for miles. You must use all avenues to retrieve your pets. Calls should be made to Animal Control, newspapers lost and found, police departments, and veterinarian hospitals in the area.

One more very important point that must be brought out is that toady's ACOs do not put animals that they pick up to sleep, unless they're sick beyond help or vicious. We are a very dedicated group of people who work together for animals and their owners.

Now to prove that the hard work does pay off, I would like to let the residents of Middleton know that this year we broke our record for dog's licensed in town. We now have over 800 dogs licensed, which is also in a large part due to the clerks, Kate and Sally. They are outstanding at record-keeping.

As for our cat owners, most are doing very good keeping their rabies shots up to date, but as for keeping cats in the house, that is another story. Cats are still out mixing with sick wildlife and "this is not good". My missing cat reports are off the charts, also the high numbers of poor cats hit by cars

are so sad and senseless. Most people seem to think because their cat had a rabies shot it is safe to let them out. This is **not true**. Many cats are disappearing, some due to coyotes, others because of being hit by cars and running into the woods to die.

The state is advising Massachusetts' residents that, not only do we have the raccoon strain of rabies to deal with, but now we have the fox strain moving our way. The last report given to Health Officials and ACOs is that this new problem is only twenty miles north in N.H. They also want people to know not to interact in any way with strays or wild animals, including cats you think might need your help. Statistics for rabies cases have increased by 70% between 1997 and 1998.

Just recently, several new residents have stated that they were not aware of Middleton's Animal Control and our small adoption program. For anyone who is not familiar with us, you may contact me with questions relating to animal laws, problems or adoptions. We work directly with Stray's in Need, the group that places animals from this immediate area. They take care of all the medical needs and have a very small adoption fee. This is all done strictly from donations and fund raisers.

Those of you wishing to come to our Rabies Clinic in the spring, mark your calendar for the first Wednesday in May. You may also license your dogs the same day.

Please continue the good work of being good neighbors and responsible animal owners. "Keep your pets home".

Thank you to all the Town Officials I have worked with this past year. Let's hope that the new year goes well for everyone, "Pets and People Alike".

Your A.C.O.

Betty Heckman

BOARD OF APPEALS

Town Report July 1, 1997 - June 30, 1998

Regularly scheduled hearings of the Board of Appeals are held in the DPW Building, 195 North Main Street, at 7:30 p.m. on the fourth Thursday of each month. Meetings that are more recent have been held at the Fuller Meadow School.

Applications for a public hearing must be submitted to the Town Clerk and must include the following to avoid delays in processing:

1. For each request for a site plan, variance, special permit or review of building inspector's denial, a non-refundable fee of \$75.00 is required. This fee is payable to the Town of Middleton and must accompany the application to cover the costs of Legal Notice publication and other expenses associated with the required public hearing.
2. Six copies of plans and applications with the appropriate application number stamped by the Building Inspector.
3. It is the responsibility of the Applicant to obtain a list of certified abutters (parties of interest) from the Board of Assessors Office. The form that is to be filed is included in the application.
4. The subject matter of the application, i.e., variance, site plan approval, special permit or review refusal of the Building Inspector to issue a permit.

5. The location of the area of the premises, including the street address and assessors map number, the lot number and one copy of an corresponding assessors map (scale 1" = 200').

6. The name of the applicant printed or typed and signed including telephone number.

7. All applications must be approved and signed by the Building Inspector before they are taken to the Town Clerk.

8. The Town Clerk will accept and date stamp an application only if all items listed above are in order.

The Board will schedule a public hearing at the earliest possible date, but not later than 65 days after filing of the application, pending the availability of the needed information and response from other interested Boards and Agencies.



The Board wishes to express its thanks for the contribution made by John Carrington who resigned after serving 8 years on the Board.

The Board deeply regrets the sudden passing of newly appointed alternate member Edward J. Richardson and regular member Richard O. Ajootian who contributed 22 years of faithful and dedicated service to the Board. They will both be sorely missed.



Anne Tragert Cote and Lynn Murphy were appointed as alternates for the ensuing Fiscal Year 99.

We wish to thank the Planning Board and Building Inspector for their timely input and other Boards, town officials and Town Counsel for their assistance throughout the year.

Respectfully submitted,

Stuart H. Lord, Chairman
 Roger E. Drysdale, Clerk
 Richard O. Ajootian
 Jeffrey D. Schreiber
 John Leitner
 Linda Parker, Alternate
 Edward J. Richardson, Alternate

**During the 1997-1998 fiscal year, the Board of Appeals
 heard a total of 44 petitions with decisions shown:**

#	PETITION	GRANTED	DENIED	WITHDRAWN	POSTPONED
9	Variances	3	3	3	0
14	Site Plans	11	1	1	1
18	Special Permits	16	0	1	1
3	Inspector's Decisions	1	2	0	0

BOARD OF ASSESSORS

In Fiscal Year 1998 (July 1, 1997 - June 30, 1998), the Department hired Mr. Christopher Bova as our new Assistant Assessor/Appraiser. Mr. Bova is a Massachusetts Accredited Assessor who previously worked in Methuen and North Andover. Mr. Bova brings to the Assessing Department extensive assessment experience, outstanding computer skills and professional leadership.

During Fiscal 1999, the Department will utilize Mr. Bova's skills to complete two important projects with long range ramifications. The first is the state mandated revaluation of all real and personal property in the town. The Board and Mr. Bova laid the groundwork for the successful completion of this project in Fiscal 1998.

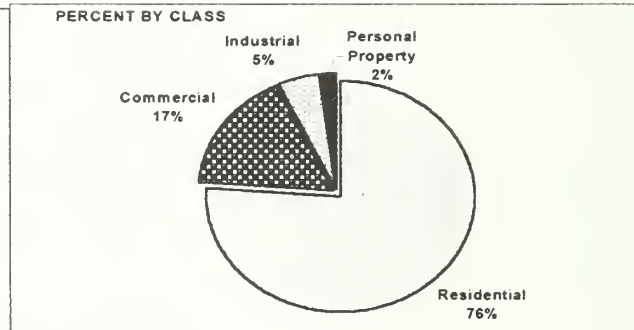
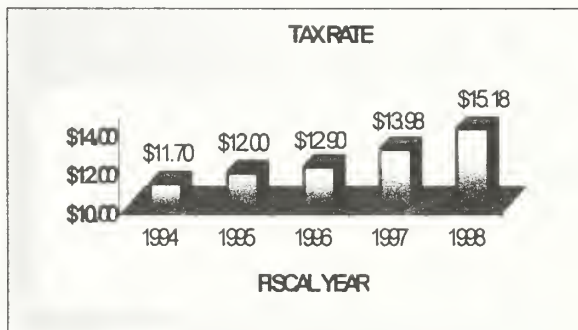
The second project is the purchase and installation of new assessing software to meet

the town's needs into the new millennium. Mr. Bova's computer skills will play an important role in the completion of this important task.

At the annual Town Election in May, Patricia A. Ohlson was re-elected to a three-year term to the Board of Assessors. During this current term, Ms. Ohlson will complete 20 years of service to the Assessing Department.

May of 1998 also brought the untimely death of long time Board of Assessor member Richard O. Ajootian. We are all saddened by the loss of our colleague.

The tax rate for Fiscal 1998 was \$15.18 per thousand dollars of value for all classes of property. The following is a five-year recap of tax-related information and a summary, by class, of the Fiscal 1998 valuation and tax levy.



FY	VALUE REAL & PERSONAL	TAX RATE	TOTAL APPROPRIATION	CASH RECEIPTS	TAX LEVY
1994	\$ 492,689,169	\$ 11.70	\$ 7,125,632	\$ 2,030,093	\$ 5,764,463
1995	\$ 520,869,973	\$ 12.00	\$ 8,189,058	\$ 2,390,122	\$ 6,250,440
1996	\$ 536,722,094	\$ 12.90	\$ 9,022,809	\$ 2,681,905	\$ 6,923,715
1997	\$ 533,624,756	\$ 13.98	\$ 9,989,017	\$ 3,069,516	\$ 7,460,074
1998	\$ 565,582,737	\$ 15.18	\$ 12,017,004	\$ 3,431,459	\$ 8,585,546

VALUE AND PERCENTAGE BY CLASS

CLASS	VALUE	PERCENT	TAX DOLLARS
RESIDENTIAL	\$429,637,276	76%	\$6,521,894
COMMERCIAL	\$97,505,941	17%	\$1,480,140
INDUSTRIAL	\$27,062,410	5%	\$410,807
PERSONAL PROPERTY	\$11,377,110	2%	\$172,705
TOTAL	\$565,582,737	100%	\$8,585,546

MIDDLETON BOARD OF HEALTH

This year the Board of Health activities included work completing many subdivisions in town. Several septic systems went in the ground each week. With so many system inspections, restaurant checks were not being done often enough. After interviewing candidates, a part time inspector was hired to catch up with this important work.

The new Title V has caused the replacement of a lot of old and a few not so old septic systems. When a septic system is inspected, photographs are taken of the installation. A set of these photos is at the Board of Health as a public record.

I was involved in the investigation of a case of arson at the Daniel Fuller Restaurant. The case was investigated by the Federal Alcohol, Tobacco and Firearms Division. The person finally pleaded guilty in the case.

The town of Danvers conducted a study of possible sources of public water in Middleton and Danvers in the spring.

The Board of Health received some reimbursement for Medicare flu vaccinations this year.

The Board of Health members are:

Dale Buckley, Chairman
Dr. Robert Nersasian
Niru Patel
Dr. Jay Afrow
Mary Jane Morrin

Your Health Agent is Leo Cormier and the secretary is Helen Freedman.

Miscellaneous Work:

Rowley Regional Health Agent meeting	1
Essex County Health Agent meeting	1
Masco Health Grant	1
Household Hazardous Waste Collection	1
Beverly Hospital regional agents meetings	3
Soil evaluation re-test	1
Tour Ogden Martin solid waste burn plant	1
Court dates	7
Dormitory inspection	1
School inspection	1
Staff meeting	1
DEP open house	1

Pike Messenger, in his capacity as part time Conservation Commission Agent, filled in for Leo Cormier.

The following statistics were generated in this fiscal year:

Board of Health Meetings	13	MHOA Workshop	1
Lead Determination Workshop	1	Staff Meeting	3
CHNA 13 Meeting	1	Solid Waste Committee	1
WIC Program Info Meeting	3	Open Space Committee	2
Installers Workshop	1	Healthy Communities	7
MHOA Meeting & Workshop	2	Voc. School Health Advisory Meeting	1
HHWC Day	1		
Masco Health Council	2	Beverly Hospital Health Agent Meeting	1
North Shore Registered Health Agents Network Meeting	14		
Septic Inspections	385	Pike Messenger Septic Inspections	15
Restaurant Inspections	25	Nelly Janga Restaurant Inspections	49
Motel/Hotel Inspections	1		
Tanning Salon Inspections	1	Wreath School Inspections	1
Massage Salon Inspections	4	Wreath School Dorm Inspections	1
Chapter II Home Inspections	2		
Pig Farm Inspections	1		
Pools Inspections	11		
Day Camp Inspections	2		
Installers Tests	7	Pike Messenger Well Tests	4
Well Tests by Health Agent	33	Ellen Weizler Witness Perc Test	6
Perc Tests by Health Agent	135		
Lead Determination	1		
Thunderbridge Samples	2		
Septic Plans Reviewed	129		
Septic Plan Approvals	74		
Complaints Answered	68		
Town Program Vaccines	3		
Swabs Taken at Food Service Establishments	3		

**Licenses, Permits Issued
From July 1, 1997 through June 30, 1998**

Food Service Permits	59	Milk & Cream Licenses	44
Installers Permits	41	Frozen Dessert (see general)	12
Haulers	12	Milk Pasteurization	1
Massage Salons	2	Swine Permits	1
Massage Therapists	2	Camp Licenses	2
Tanning Salon	1	Pool Permits	7
Water Bottling	1	Hot Tubs	1
Hotel/Motel Licenses	3	Tobacco Permits	20
Hypodermic Syringes	2	Burial Certificates	14



**BOH Fees Collected
July 1997 through June 1998**

July	\$ 2,298.50
September 3	3,541.60
October 16	3,187.50
October 30	4,150.50
November 17	3,517.25
December 3	3,034.00
December 29	2,949.00
February 2	3,616.50
February 27	4,199.55
April 7	3,070.00
April 23	3,548.50
May 22	2,410.00
June 3	3,070.50
June 9	2,928.00
June 16	<u>1,965.00</u>
Total	\$ 47,486.90

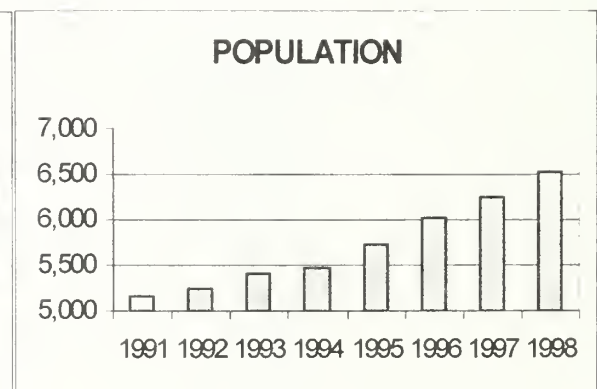
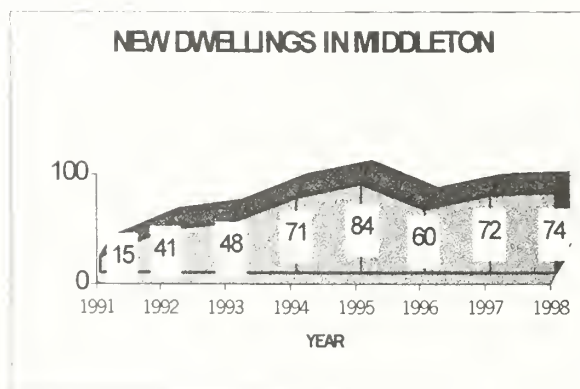
CONSERVATION COMMISSION

In the first quarter of FY 1998 the drought continued and became a record setter. By late August, even the Ipswich ceased to flow in upper basin towns. Up river from the Transfer Station, it was reduced to a series of ponds. In North Reading the remaining trickle flowed backward in places, pulled by the pumps of well fields. Concentric rings of dead fish marked the diminishing puddles, species least tolerant to low oxygen levels in the outer circles. The great drought of June to October 1997 was the worst here since the Danvers Water Supply station at Middleton Pond has kept records.

The drought was followed by an unusually mild winter; the frost may have never penetrated more than a foot. Work on new sub-divisions, Woodstone, Brookstone, Thornton Circle, and Kelley Lane, all off Boston Street, continued in high gear. The Town saw 74 new living units (60 dwellings, 12 condo units, and 2 conversions) built or started, many near wetlands and/or 200 feet from the river or perennial streams designated as "rivers" under the Rivers Protection Act of 1996.

We reviewed about a dozen plans involving work in these restricted River Front Areas. Two were off a tributary of Punchards Brook. A developer argued that the stream was intermittent since it had dried up in the drought and was therefore unprotected. We ruled it perennial, as the regulations say that streams that only dry up during extreme droughts are not necessarily intermittent. This is an example of decisions we have to make under the Wetland Protection Act and the Rivers Protection Act.

The building boom in our Town continues unabated (See graphs below). Since about one-fourth of the Town's area are wetlands (swamps, marshes, bogs, wet meadows, streams, river, ponds, and lake) they have become ever more valuable as development occurs in and around them and as the ratio of developed upland to wetland increases. The wetland, especially those thick with vegetation, and most are, act as filters for runoff from ever increasing paved drives, roads and roofs.



In carrying out our responsibilities to protect these valuable resources we and our agents:

- Held 20 public meetings.
- Heard 8 Requests for Determination of Applicability. Such hearings review plans to determine if a project is of potential danger to wetlands.
- Reviewed 43 Notices of Intent and issued 43 Orders of Conditions permitting, or in three case denying, projects. Conditions are ordered on each to protect nearby wetlands during and after completion, e.g. haybales, riprap, etc.
- Received 22 requests for Certificates of Compliance. Issued approximately 16 for those projects satisfactorily completed.
- Heard requests for and issued amendments or allowed changes as insignificant to 12 individual Orders of Conditions.
- Issued 1 Enforcement Order and several "cease and desist" letters for violations of the Wetland Protection Act.
- Received and acted upon 4 requests to extend Orders Of Conditions.
- Made approximately 200 site visits.
- In October 1996 Commissioner Sally Macdonald formed an Open Space Committee. In May of this year she and 15 other members presented their Open Space and Recreation Plan to Town Officials for comments and endorsements and finally to the State for approval.
- This recently formed Commission (Four commissioners are on the Open Space Committee) has been actively working with the Committee on the Plan and on open space acquisition. Please see Chairman Macdonald's report to the Town following this report.

This year the Selectmen approved the Commission's request that Notice of Intent (application with plans for a permit to do work within 100 feet from wetlands or 200 feet from river or streams) filing fees be credited to a Wetland Protection Fund. This is an accumulative one that the Commission can spend from without appropriation, but with the written approval of the Town Administrator, the money to be used in administering the Wetlands Protection Act. As of July 1 there was \$6865.00 in this fund.

The fiscal year saw work being completed at the Town's new transfer station, formerly gravel pits, "dump", and "landfill". The Commission has been very much involved during this project since it is near the river and its floodplain and wetlands. One artificial wetland covering about one and one half acres that had formed over four decades in abandoned gravel pits was delineated and saved. It forms a critical buffer between the river and the capped landfill.

Down river the Commission was very much involved in the planning and review of elaborate plans to cap the illegal landfill between East Street and Nichols Brook. The capping began in a big way all through the summer and fall of 1997, 1000s of truckloads of "Big Dig" fill were brought in from Boston. The work did not resume this spring as planned due to a lack of fill. Water samples are taken twice a year from four test wells and three surface sites surrounding this site of approximately 10 acres of buried debris.

The Commission is monitoring the results and otherwise keeping a close eye on the project. The material brought in is high in relatively impervious silt and clay. This fill now covers almost all the buried debris to depths of several feet, so while not finished the fill is acting as a partial cap until such time as work resumes.

If you have any questions regarding our Town's natural resources please contact us directly or Leo Cormier or Pike Messenger at 777-1869, or write them:

c/o Conservation Commission
195 North Main Street
Middleton, MA 01949

Respectfully,

CONSERVATION COMMISSION

Leonard Kupreance, Chairman
Gertrude Dearborn
Warren Haas
Sally Macdonald
Glenn Bambury

AGENTS
Leo Cormier
Conservation Administrator
and Health Agent

Pike Messenger
Assistant Conservation Administrator

SECRETARIES
Mary Farley, Conservation Secretary
Helen Freedman
(also secretary to Board of Health, Planning
Board, and Board of Appeals)



OPEN SPACE and RECREATION COMMITTEE

This Open Space Committee was established three years ago. In that time we have submitted an Open Space and Recreation Plan to the Executive Office of Environmental Affairs, Division of Conservation Services. In the summer of 1998 we were given provisional approval for the Plan. We are currently in the process of addressing the points the State has brought up to complete the process of acceptance. This means that the Town of Middleton qualifies to apply for grants for matching funds from the State for lands to be used for passive recreation.

The Open Space Committee wishes to thank those residents who completed the Questionnaire and those who attended the numerous meetings to participate in the process of writing the Plan.

In 1997 Town Meeting voted \$50,000.00 to be used for open space purposes; in 1998, the amount approved was \$25,000.00. In 1998, using \$25,000.00 of the budgeted funds, the Town, in cooperation with Essex County Greenbelt Association and New England Forestry Foundation, purchased approximately 76 acres of land north of Mill Street. These lands border other Greenbelt

and New England Forestry parcels that are contiguous with the Boxford State Forest. Public access to these parcels can be obtained from Mill Street.

We now have a standing Open Space Committee whose activities include seeking parcels of land which help us achieve the goals of our Plan.

Middleton still has large parcels of open land, especially in the more northern section of Town. It is well known that communities with large amounts of protected open spaces enjoy higher property values. One way of containing future growth is for the Town to purchase and protect property for open space.

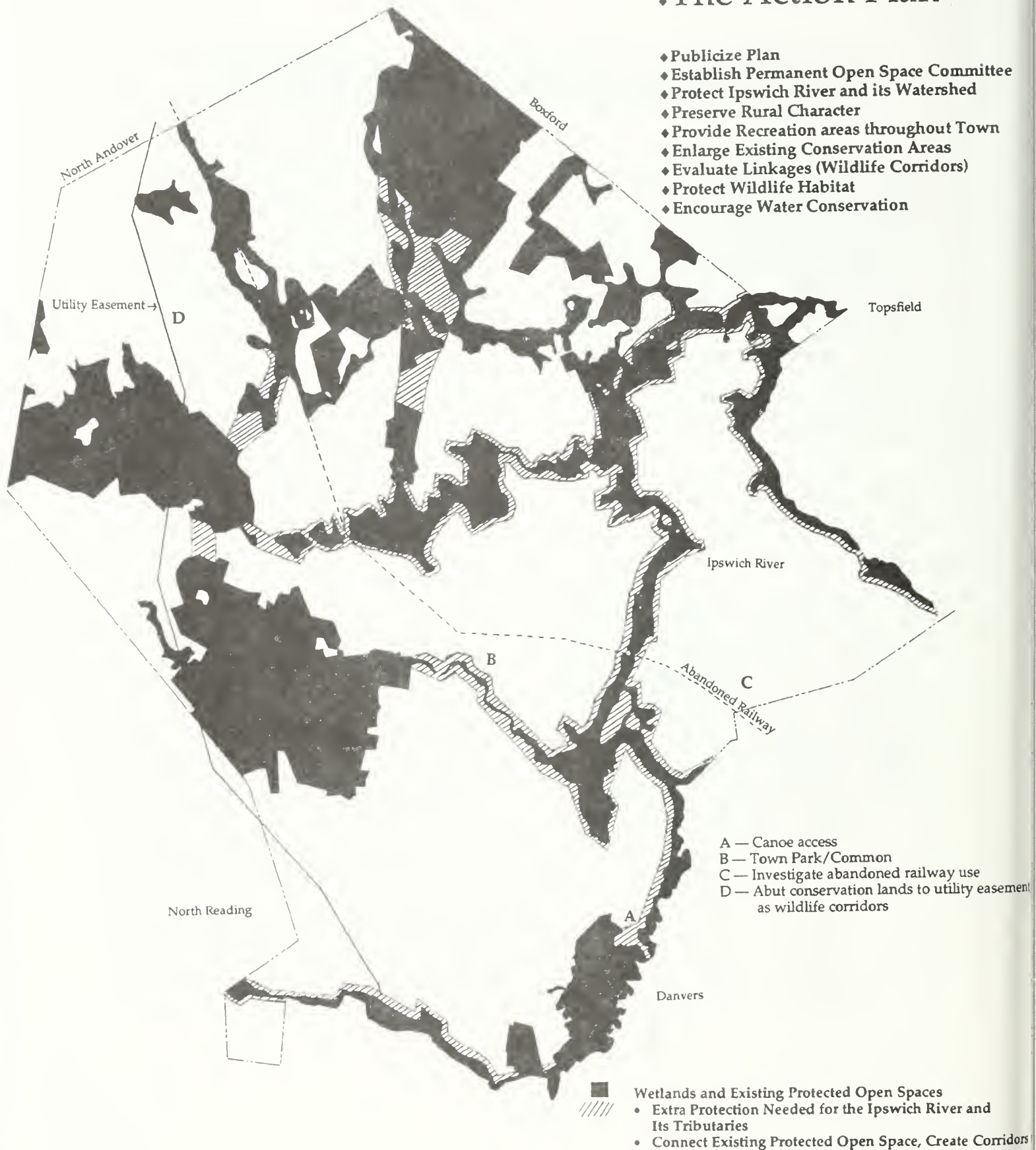
Respectfully submitted,

Glenn Bambury
Joseph Conceison
Anne Cote
Gertrude Dearborn
George E. Dow, Sr.
Robert Kelley
Sally Macdonald, Chair

Pike Messenger
Mary Jane Morrin
Priscilla Neal
Kosta Prentakis
Paul Richardson
Henry Tragert
Steven Weitzler



.The Action Plan



COUNCIL ON AGING

The Middleton Council On Aging and Senior Center has had a busy and successful year serving the elders of the community. Direct services are available to all residents 60 years of age and older. The following report offers a brief overview of some of the activities and services which have taken place between July 1, 1997 and June 30, 1998.

The Senior Center, which is located in the Old Town Hall at 38 Maple Street, is open three (3) days a week, Monday, Wednesday and Friday from 9:00 am to 1:00 p.m. There are a variety of activities taking place on those days, as well as lunch being served. Patti Flynn, our creative Meal Site Director, oversees the lunch program, which includes monthly birthday celebrations and special holiday meals. All residents 60 and over are welcome to join us for lunch. Reservations can be made by telephoning the center where monthly menu/activity calendars are available. Home delivered meals are available for those seniors who are unable to get out or prepare food independently. The meal program is funded in part by federal grants, participant donations, and municipal dollars.

During the past year:

- 2,409 congregate meals were served
- 150 residents participated
- 3,209 meals were delivered to over 30 residents in need of nutritional assistance at home.

Weekly yoga classes are held on Monday mornings and continue to be well attended. Classes are provided by a certified instructor at a cost of \$2.00 per lesson. Newcomers are always welcome.

Beano remains very popular and takes place on Mondays following lunch. Olga Martinuk is the caller and organizer through the fall, winter and spring months. She takes the summer off and participants get to try their hand at calling as people take weekly turns to fill the vacancy.

Our monthly activity calendar lists full-length movies shown on Wednesday or Friday afternoons. This is a great opportunity to enjoy the latest movie hits as well as old favorites. Films are shown on a large screen TV, which allows for increased visibility and closed captioning. This is a nice option for those who may be visually and/or hearing impaired. Refreshments are served during the feature presentations.

Increased communication to the Middleton Senior community has been a key focus during the past year. With the mailing of the "Middleton Senior News" to close to 1200 senior residents (approximately 840 head of households receive the mailing), we have increased the interest and participation level in the various programs and activities offered. We are very pleased to report that, for the first time, our monthly bus day trips and other trips not requiring a bus have, more often than not, been filled to capacity. Destinations have included such things as theatrical productions, holiday theme events, museum tours, scenic trips with naturalists, boat trips, etc.

Our popular "Coffee Forums" recruit speakers to provide critical information on various health, financial and legal issues important to seniors. We have increased this program to meet at least twice monthly with scheduled topics publicized in local newspapers, cable TV, our newsletter and monthly activity calendars.

Transportation continues to be another key element in serving the needs of Middleton seniors. We have a van available for all center activities. The van also transports people locally for groceries, banking and postal needs. Sandy Masi, our dedicated van driver, introduced the very popular van mini-trips. Our monthly activity calendar lists a variety of trips to beautiful North Shore destinations such as Rockport, Salem Willows, and various "Mystery Rides". Seniors are asked to call the Senior Center to make reservations for the trips that they are interested in.

In addition to those transportation services, the van is used for the Home Delivered Meal Program. This provides clients with not only meals, but also a personal contact with Sandy. This regular contact is most important to those who are homebound and something that is eagerly anticipated.

The transportation program also provided for area medical appointments and is a very busy and worthwhile program. Monthly trips during the past year averaged 50, with Hazel Proctor dedicating many hours to coordinating and overseeing the scheduling of this service which is provided by local residents.

Last fiscal year proved to be successful as always when it came to special events and holidays.



SENIOR PICNIC HOWE-MANNING PARK

Top (l to r) Nancy Dow, Mary DeCosta, Al Pelletier, Virginia Durell, Dorothy Ferreira, Amy Conley, Mary Lawler, Louise Dane

Bottom (l to r) Josephine Leary, Marge Watson, Gene LeBlanc,

Our annual COA Senior Picnic, held at Howe-Manning Park in July, was well attended. The cookout was held in conjunction with the recreation program, during which the children attending the summer park program offered plenty of assistance. The Town Administrator and other "official" cooks grilled hot dogs and hamburgers to perfection. Everyone enjoyed a delicious ice cream dessert donated by Richardson's Dairy.

Halloween is always a fun time, as we enjoy seeing all the creative costumes.



HALLOWEEN PARTY SENIOR CENTER

Top (l to r) Frank Smerczynski, Nunzio Cotte, Christine Haykal

Bottom (l to r) Hazel Proctor, Jeanette Masi, Jane Klosowski

The annual Thanksgiving dinner was a great success with the staff serving the meal at the center, in order to give volunteers the "day off" to enjoy the occasion.



**THANKSGIVING 1997
SENIOR CENTER**

Top (l to r) Eileen Miller, Margaret Evans
Helen Hunt, Mary Campano

Bottom (l to r) Sandy Masi, Ira Singer,
Lorne Davis

The Christmas lunch and celebration was highlighted with holiday music, a visit from Santa and a gift swap.



**CHRISTMAS PARTY 1997
SENIOR CENTER**

Eugene LeBlanc, Mary Hamilton

The January Thaw was held at Angelica's Restaurant with over 135 Middleton Seniors attending, enjoying a festive afternoon. Once again, the Middleton Board of Trade supported this event with many wonderful donations from local businesses. These gifts were presented to winners of a drawing held during the party. Many thanks to the Board of Trade members for their generosity.



Top Ethel Lee, Santa / Ira Singer

Bottom JANUARY THAW 1998
(l to r) Nellie Muzichuk, Cye Fontaine



It is important to note the dedication and hard work of the volunteers who spent over 4,500 hours in service, helping with meals, maintenance, instruction, transportation, newsletters, trips, activities and so much more. The dollar value of these services amounted to approximately \$35,000!! What a savings to the Town. These hours of service are deeply appreciated. **THANK YOU!!!**

Many thanks go to the Town Administrator, Board of Selectmen, and all the Town departments as well as the members of the Council On Aging Board for helping to make this another successful year in providing services to the Middleton seniors.

Respectfully submitted,

Lindsey D. Snavelly
Director, Council On Aging

DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC WORKS

To the honorable Board of Selectmen and the Citizens of the Town of Middleton, I hereby submit the following annual report of the Department of Public Works for the period covering July 1, 1997 to June 30, 1998.

The Department roster for FY-98 consisted of the following full-time personnel:

DENNIS R. ROY, Superintendent
Kenneth Gibbons, Foreman
John Rezza, Water Systems Operator (6/97 - 3/98)
Florence Leary, Secretary
William Mugford, Light Equipment Operator
Gregory Hull, Light Equipment Operator (8/97-4/98)
Ricky Gould, Light Equipment Operator
Scott Saulnier, Light Equipment Operator
David Ogden, Light Equipment Operator
Anthony Bertino, Light Equipment Operator
Glenn Osgood, Light Equipment Operator
Paul Ajootian, Light Equipment Operator (started 6/98)

Part-time Transfer Station employees that worked throughout the year were:

Anthony Guglielmi
Robert Lake
Eugene Anzalone
Charlotte Shipley

Part-time summer help this year consisted of the following Middleton residents:

Brant Sliney
Dennis Warner
James Hooper
Ryan McCarthy



Following is a summary, by Division, of the work performed throughout the fiscal year:

- **HIGHWAY**

This year the Public Works reconstructed all of Lake Street from the Fire Station to the Town of Danver's water gate to Middleton Pond. This was a total of 3,480 feet that was reclaimed and repaved with 4" of bituminous pavement. New steel guardrail was installed in several areas on the Middleton Pond side.

Public works also spent over \$42,000 infrared patching and cracksealing many areas of Boston Street, Liberty Street and the Brigadoon area.

The Town also had Commonwealth Guard Rail replace and/or repair damaged guardrail on Forest Street, Essex Street and Maple Street. On Logbridge Road 240 feet of new steel guard railing was installed in the area behind Azzurra Restaurant for vehicular protection from the steep slope.

In August the Town had 585 catch basins cleaned as part of its annual maintenance program. We also had all our roadways swept by April and street lines repainted by the end of May.

A granite curb island was installed in the cul-de-sac on Maplewoods Road along with 20 street trees planted along the whole roadway.



Public Works was also responsible for completing the Wallen Way subdivision that was left abandoned by the former developer. With funds available by the surety bond for Wallen Way, Public Works had 400 feet of bituminous sidewalk installed, 750 feet of granite and bituminous curbing installed. The entire roadway was repaved with 2 courses of bituminous pavement, street trees planted, a center island landscaped, road bounds set and an "as-built" plan drawn.

Similar work was also done on Watkins Way from Sharpners Pond Road to Wallen Way as a result of the same developer who defaulted on his subdivision.

New subdivisions continue to be under construction throughout the Town that will be added to our existing road mileage next year.

- **SNOW**

The 1997-98 snowfall season again fell far short of the Town's normal average of 60 inches. This past season started early on November 14th when 7 inches of snow fell and finished on March 21, 1998 when 5 inches of snow fell.



This season, the Town experienced 5 storms in which private contractors were called in to assist the Town forces. There were 4 storms in which more than 6 inches of snow fell and 4 storms in which less than 6 inches of snow fell. The Town's total snowfall for 1997-98 was 38-1/2 inches. Many storms throughout the season started out as snow but quickly turned to rain, which resulted in some street flooding situations.

The Town used over 3,500 tons of salt and sand, 3,800 gallons of calcium chloride to keep our roads clear and safe. The Town had the assistance of 23 private contractors if and when needed to fight the toughest winter storms. The Town continues to use its 9 pieces of snow fighting equipment.

- **SIDEWALKS**

This year Public Works resurfaced 155 feet of sidewalk that leads to the Fuller Meadow School from Rt. 114.

The Public Works Department also installed 75 feet of new bituminous sidewalk and curbing on Boston Street in front of St. Agnes Church.

As we have in the past, Public Works continues to work with the Planning Board to have private developers install sidewalks on adjacent main streets to new subdivisions.

This year 600 feet of new bituminous sidewalk and curbing was installed on Boston Street from Lt. J. Cabral Drive to Wildwood Road. This was constructed by Damon Realty Trust, the developers for Blueberry Hill development.

• **CAPITAL PURCHASES**

Capital purchases this year included the purchase of a new engineering plan printer/copier that has the ability to copy large 24"x36" plans of a wide variety of paper quality. This machine will be a very useful machine to all Town Departments and Boards.



A new HP 8360 PC computer and printer was purchased to upgrade the DPW front office. This was needed to increase the capacity and efficiency of maintaining the many records and permits that the DPW is involved with.

Public Works also purchased a new "JCB" backhoe to replace the Town's old 1988 "Case" backhoe. This new machine is one of the most important pieces of equipment that the Town has that is used every day by the Department to do such things as: dig graves at Oakdale, load sanders in winter, install drain and water lines, snow removal operations etc. This new backhoe should give the Town 10 years of good service.

At the Fall Special Town Meeting the Town approved the purchase of an automatic tarp cover to be installed on the Transfer Station Mack truck. This automatic tarp cover will reduce the liability to the Town from accidents that would occur when our personnel had to stand on top of each open top roll-off container to cover them manually. This new system can be operated from the ground while lifting the roll-off up onto the truck.

• **CEMETERY**

During the past year there were 37 interments at Oakdale Cemetery. During this same period there were a total of 42 new lots sold of which 2 were single graves, 14 were double graves and 3 were four grave lot sales. Revenue collected from these sales amounted to \$6,490.00.

The recently opened "2000 Section" continues to provide the 5 - 10 years of additional grave space that the Town needs. Plans are now being prepared for additional space after the "2000 Section" is sold.

Town crews continued to maintain Oakdale throughout the year by weekly grass mowing, annual shrub pruning and fertilizing as well as planting new trees and maintaining others.

New cemetery gates were installed at each entrance to Oakdale to reduce the potential for vandalism after hours. Infrared patching was done on Birch Avenue this year.

• **PARKS & PLAYGROUNDS**

In addition to our regular routine maintenance of all parks and playgrounds, all areas were fertilized on a regular schedule throughout the season.

All baseball diamonds were edged, weeded, and infields reshaped in preparation for opening day and then regularly maintained thereafter with weekly mowing and line painting.

The Town was able to complete Phase II and nearly complete Phase III of the field improvements at the Fuller Meadow School this past year. These two new baseball fields that are fully irrigated will be ready for full play in the spring of 1999.

Public Works worked with the engineering firm of Camp, Dresser & McGee (CDM) to design and put out to bid the final plans for the full sized soccer field at the landfill that will be constructed on the clay filled area that came from the "big dig" project in Boston. Hauling of this clay material continued all summer and has been rough

graded to elevations of the new field. Construction on the new soccer field will begin in the fall of 1998 and completed in the spring of 1999. This new soccer field along with the recently constructed adjacent soccer field will have a sprinkler irrigation system installed to keep them in quality condition throughout the year. This new sprinkler system will be supplied by two new wells to be drilled in late fall 1998 inside the Transfer Station gated area. These new fields should relieve some of the field space issues temporarily until other properties can be found.



Public Works bought eight new picnic benches for the parks and repaired and painted all others. The Department also removed all park benches in the Square and in front of the Library and Howe-Manning

School and repaired all damaged wood slats, restained and sealed the wood. The wrought iron legging was wire brushed and painted with Rustoleum paint for protection.

The Town also experienced a severe case of anthracnose, which attacked most of the Town's maple trees. This was caused by the unusual warm temperatures the Town experienced in March which caused trees to bud prematurely and then between the colder temperatures of early April and the record rains of June it caused a fungus to form on the leaves. Many trees dropped their leaves in early July and did not re-leaf until late July.

On June 13, 1998 the Town, and most of the State, experienced its largest one-day rain total ever. Seven plus inches fell during this 24 hour period and caused road flooding in areas such as River Street, Highland Road and East Street. Town crews were out clearing basins, removing fallen tree limbs and repairing washouts.

In early spring and again during the summer the Town used personnel from the Essex County Correctional Facility and NFI to canvas the Town for roadside trash. This was a great help to the Town in helping to keep Middleton clear of trash.

• WATER

During FY-98 there were 82 permits issued for either new or renewed water services.

In addition to the weekly bacterial sampling of our water system, pressure testing and chlorination to all new water lines were done.

The Town's water system maps and service drawings book was updated with all new lines, services, gates and hydrants that have been added to the system this year. Water line extensions this year were by developers for new subdivision or commercial development.

Improvements were as follows:

Leary Lane	260 feet of 8" water
Rte. 114 (McDonald's to Boston Beauty)	225 feet of 8" water
Thornton Circle	780 feet of 8" water
Old Haswell Park Road (Brookstone Subdivision)	1000 feet of 12" water
Easement to Fuller Pond Village	500 feet of 8" water

Due to a dry spring, a voluntary odd/even water ban was instituted by the Town of Danvers in June of 1997 and was in place throughout the summer months. The Town of Danvers recorded record low water levels at Middleton Pond. Additional water was purchased from the Salem/Beverly water system to supplement Middleton and Danver's needs in late summer. A mandatory water ban was put into place by late summer.



All Town hydrants were repainted this year with the assistance of our summer help personnel. This program is important because it not only brings back the visibility to the hydrants but it also gives the water system operator a chance to inspect each hydrant for any problems.

The Town continued with its annual hydrant-flushing program in early April. Over 75 hydrants were flushed throughout the system during the early evening hours to prevent inconvenience and potential rust problems to customers.

John Rezza, our Water system Operator, spent many hours working with the contractor on the Rte. 62 road improvement project locating services, gate boxes and assisting on several water breaks that occurred during construction.

As the town is mandated to institute a Cross-Connection Control Program, all commercial, industrial, municipal and institutional buildings will need to be surveyed and instructed on what measures they will need to take in order to comply with the **"Safe Water Drinking Act"** regulations.

A draft cross-connection policy was presented to the Board of Selectmen with a final draft to follow and eventually adopted. Both John Rezza and myself attended several workshops and meetings regarding this program as well as other instructional seminars put on by the D.E.P. and the New England Water Works Association.

In reward for all our efforts, the Town of Middleton Water Department was awarded **"The Most Improved Water System" in the Commonwealth for 1998**. A plaque and certificate was presented at the State House on May 6, 1998. We proudly display this award next to our other awards at the D.P.W. building.



The responsibilities to run an efficient water system continue to grow as new regulations are enacted. The water system operator plays an important role in assuring clean and reliable water to all its customers.

• **SOLID WASTE**

The Solid Waste Division of the Department of Public Works continued to be very busy this year.

With a little more than one year of operation under our belt the Transfer Station continues to run well and has become more efficient as time goes on.

For calendar year 1998 the following amounts were recycled or disposed of at the Transfer Station:

Residential Trash	1816 tons	Disposed of at Ogden Martin (\$50.87/ton)
Plastics	9 tons	Recycled
Mixed Paper/Cardboard	296 tons	Recycled
Green/Brown/Clear Glass	30 tons	Recycled
Tires (630 each)	4 tons	Recycled
Christmas Trees (400 ea.)	7 tons	Chipped and composted
Waste Oil	1713 gals	Recycled-used to heat DPW garage
Leaves & Brush	182 tons	Composted or chipped
Metals/White goods	149 tons	Recycled
Aluminum/Tin cans	9 tons	Recycled
Construction/Demolition Material (C & D)	289 tons	Disposed at Laidlaw (\$63.00/ton)

TOTAL MATERIAL MOVED AT THE TRANSFER STATION: 4,504 TONS

The Town, with the assistance of the North Shore Regional Vocational School, started construction of the new 24 foot by 36 foot concrete block "swap shop" located inside the Transfer Station facility. The foundation was poured in early January and block construction began in March 1998. This new building will replace the old block building at the old landfill entrance. The new building will be 4 times the area of the old building. It will also provide an area for the recycling coordinator to stand out of the weather.

In conclusion of what has been another busy year for the Department, I would like to thank the Board of Selectmen, Town Administrator and the Community for their continued support of our efforts throughout the year.

I would also like to thank the Department personnel for their hard and dedicated work in serving the growing needs of Middleton.

Respectfully submitted,

DENNIS R. ROY
Superintendent of Public Works



**SUPERINTENDENT ROY ACCEPTING
KEYS TO NEW "JCB" BACKHOE**



**NEW BASEBALL DIAMOND
AT FULLER MEADOW SCHOOL**



**NEW "STOP and SWAP" SHOP
UNDER CONSTRUCTION by NORTH SHORE REGIONAL VOCATION SCHOOL**



SCOTT SAULNIER
REFINISHING PARK BENCHES



ROLL-OFF CONTAINERS
WAITING FOR PICK-UP
AFTER C & D WEEKEND



IRRIGATION WELLS BEING DUG
AT TRANSFER STATION
FOR NEW SOCCER FIELDS

MIDDLETON ELECTRIC LIGHT DEPARTMENT

Report of the Board of Electric Commissioners

***To the Honorable Board of Selectmen:
To the Citizens of Middleton:***

It is our pleasure to submit the Annual Report of the Board of Electric Commissioners for Middleton Electric's fiscal year, ending December 31, 1998.

During 1998, the Middleton Electric Light Department continued to provide reliable electric service at among the lowest cost in Massachusetts.

Legislation introduced and passed in November of 1997 made retail choice available for some Massachusetts electric consumers on March 1, 1998. Consistent with Massachusetts legislation and the principles of "home rule", each municipal utility will have the right to decide, through locally elected Board of Commissioners, when to offer retail choice.

We recognize that we are entering a critical period as competition draws near, and we are committed to making the decisions that are required to keep M.E.L.D. prosperous. We are confident that our focused work force will succeed in the ever-changing utility industry.

We are pleased to report to you a year of significant achievement for M.E.L.D. The billed operating revenue from the sale of electricity for 1998 was \$8,816,444, an increase of \$370,152 from 1997. *Table 1* illustrates comparative revenues by customer class from 1992 through 1998. Energy increased by 2,334,135 kwh - an increase of 2.36% (*see table 2*). The financial statements available at M.E.L.D.'s office show all activities and balances.

Middleton Electric Light Department has always done best for customers since inception in 1912. Our purpose has always been clear: to provide reliable, low cost power to our customers.

Major construction that was completed during 1998 included the following: The completion of the reconductoring and the transfer of 52 poles on East Street. The completion of the transfer of 25 poles on Maple Street. Underground conductor was installed at Howe Station. This conductor will replace the overhead conductor that is currently in service. The total expenditure for this project during 1998 amounted to approximately \$75,000. Completion of this project is scheduled for spring of 1999. An additional \$75,000 for the removal of the overhead wires and the installation of services is expected.

Two underground feeders at Ferncroft were replaced. The distribution system was also upgraded.

The initial phase of the automated meter reading system has been implemented. Hardware has been installed. Test meters have also been installed. In early 1999 trial readings will be performed. If successful, approximately 300 meters will be operational by the year 2000.

Middleton enjoyed the fifth lowest residential rates in the State during 1998. The residential rate comparison graph that follows illustrates Middleton's rate compared to that of the municipal average and various investor owned utilities.

During 1998 it was M.E.L.D.'s goal to review it's existing power contracts. It was the goal to cancel, rewrite, or renegotiate any contract that may have an effect on M.E.L.D.'s power costs. Four important contracts were analyzed. In July M.E.L.D. bought out the R.F.A. contract. This trash plant had a high cost of energy and the difference between its cost and the cost of replacement power amounted to 1.6 million over the life of the contract. New England Power sold its generating assets to U.S. GEN. M.E.L.D.'s contract with N.E.P. for

the Manchester Street station was renegotiated, resulting in a savings of \$750,000 over the term of the contract. In August of 1997 Maine Yankee shut down. During 1998 an agreement was reached with the owners of Maine Yankee for a one-time payment of \$102,000. This will relieve M.E.L.D. of all obligations relative to this plant, including decommissioning. This also sets up a similar situation at the Vermont Yankee Plant from which M.E.L.D. currently purchases energy.

The negotiation that had the largest impact on M.E.L.D.'s rates occurred with Northeast Utilities. An analysis was performed in the spring of 1998 on the N.U. partial requirement's contract. With the ability to vary the base (fixed price) and intermediate (oil-indexed price) capacity, M.E.L.D. took advantage of changes in the market price of power to maximize the benefit of the system power purchase. This benefit totaled \$320,000 for 1998 alone. The contract runs through 2003 with the benefit realized by M.E.L.D. of \$2,650,000 in power costs. This

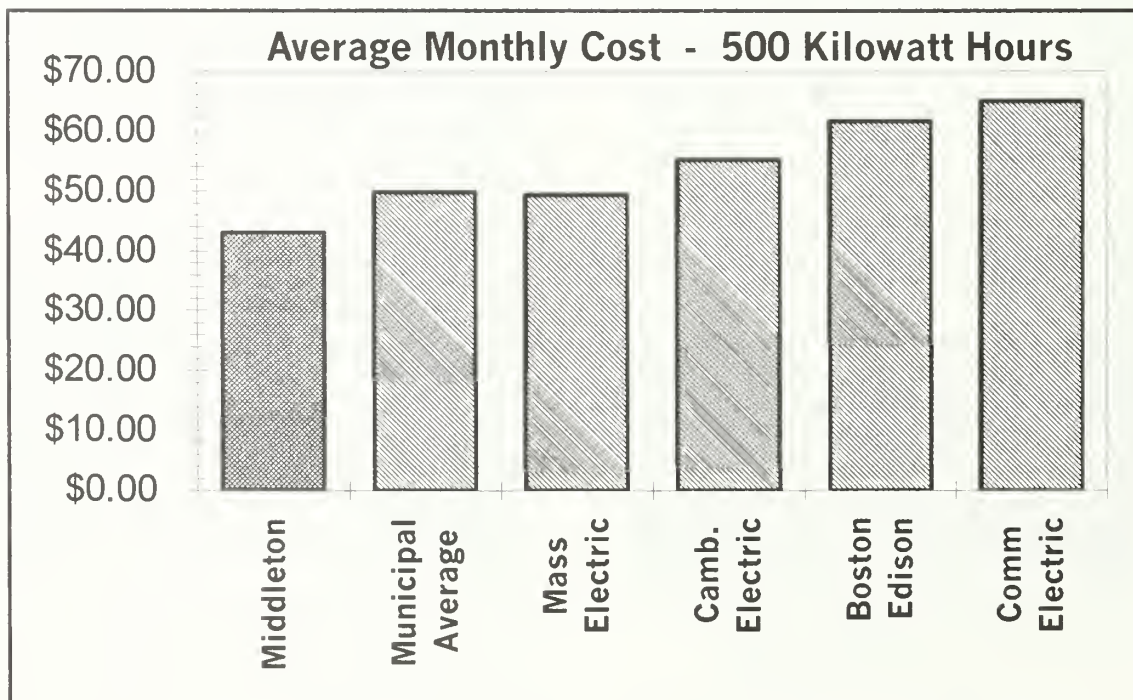
is an excellent hedge, which will stabilize M.E.L.D.'s rates.

It is the commitment of the Electric Light Commission to explore ways to provide electricity at the lowest rates possible and with the support of our ratepayers, M.E.L.D. will remain a valuable asset the Town can be proud of.

M.E.L.D. extends it's appreciation for the cooperation extended by all the various departments and employees within the Town of Middleton and looks forward to 1999.

Respectfully Submitted

Alfred Jones, Chairman
Richard Kassiotis
Charles S. Clinch III
A. David Lenzie
Frank W. Twiss, Clerk



MIDDLETON ELECTRIC LIGHT DEPARTMENT

COMPARATIVE BALANCE SHEET 1998

	Balance Beginning of Year	Balance End of Year	Increase or (Decrease)
<u>ASSETS</u>			
UTILITY PLANT			
101 Utility Plant - Electric	6,646,315	6,573,781	(72,534)
FUND ACCOUNTS			
126 Depreciation Fund	1,750,036	1,823,201	73,165
127 Rate Stabilization Fund	2,250,267	2,720,383	470,116
CURRENT AND ACCRUED ASSETS			
131 Cash	994,945	1,181,809	186,864
132 Special Deposits	72,394	67,641	(4,753)
132 Working Funds	700	700	0
142 Customer Accounts Receivable	213,605	145,624	(67,981)
143 Other Accounts Receivable	30,395	38,367	7,972
146 Receivables from Municipality	7,069	0	(7,069)
151 Materials and Supplies	209,604	227,281	17,677
165 Prepayments	1,172,796	1,172,030	(766)
DEFERRED DEBITS			
183 Other Deferred Debits	27,690	27,690	0
Total Assets and Other Debits	<u>13,375,816</u>	<u>13,978,507</u>	<u>602,691</u>
<u>LIABILITIES</u>			
SURPLUS			
206 Loans Repayments	1,294,500	1,394,500	100,000
207 Appropriations for Construction Repayments	10,041	10,041	0
208 Unappropriated Earned Surplus	7,197,631	8,001,306	803,675
LONG TERM DEBT			
221 Bonds	1,200,000	1,100,000	(100,000)
231 Notes Payable	0	0	0
CURRENT AND ACCRUED LIABILITIES			
232 Accounts Payable	1,301,090	1,154,531	(146,559)
235 Customer Deposits	57,014	52,944	(4,070)
242 Miscellaneous Current and Accrued Liabilities	74,353	23,998	(50,355)
DEFERRED CREDITS			
252 Customer Advances for Construction	2,754	2,754	0
RESERVES			
260 Reserves for Uncollectable Accounts	6,310	6,310	0
CONTRIBUTIONS IN AID OF CONSTRUCTION			
271 Contributions in Aid of Construction	2,232,123	2,232,123	0
Total Liabilities and Other Credits	<u>13,375,816</u>	<u>13,978,507</u>	<u>602,691</u>

MIDDLETON ELECTRIC LIGHT DEPARTMENT
STATEMENT OF INCOME FOR THE YEAR 1998

	Current Year	Increase or (Decrease) from Preceding Year
OPERATING INCOME		
400 Operating Revenue	8,585,708	369,309
OPERATING EXPENSES		
401 Operation expenses	7,683,562	182,124
402 Maintenance Expense	242,073	(37,089)
403 Depreciation Expense	325,400	12,166
Total Operating Expenses	8,251,035	157,201
Operating Income	334,673	212,108
OTHER INCOME		
415 Income from Merchandising, Jobbing, Contract Work	5,983	(24,675)
419 Interest Income	224,752	25,517
421 Miscellaneous Non-Operating Income		
Total Income	565,408	212,950
INTEREST CHARGES		
427 Interest on Bonds and Notes	71,880	(5,460)
431 Other Interest Expense		
Total Interest Charges	71,880	(5,460)
NET INCOME	493,528	218,410

	DEBITS	CREDITS
208 Unappropriated Earned Surplus (at beginning of period)		7,197,638
433 Balance Transferred From Income		493,528
434 Miscellaneous Credits To Surplus		516,337
435 Miscellaneous Debits To Surplus	116,197	
436 Appropriations Of Surplus	90,000	
437 Surplus Applied To Depreciation		
208 Unappropriated Earned Surplus (at end of period)	8,001,306	
TOTAL	8,207,503	8,207,503

MIDDLETON ELECTRIC LIGHT DEPARTMENT
COMPARATIVE TABLES

TABLE 1 REVENUES

<u>YEAR</u>	<u>RESIDENTIAL</u>	<u>COMMERCIAL</u>	<u>INDUSTRIAL</u>	<u>MUNICIPAL</u>	<u>OTHER</u>
1992	2,180,461	1,124,474	4,265,945	91,588	64,970
1993	2,033,333	1,139,438	5,215,906	98,747	78,220
1994	1,896,051	1,142,793	5,063,000	89,570	102,573
1995	1,859,774	1,155,507	5,019,718	86,731	276,825
1996	1,879,981	1,120,542	4,563,313	90,629	226,622
1997	1,912,359	1,108,891	5,032,965	98,698	293,379
1998	2,035,571	1,234,126	5,145,396	106,217	295,134

TABLE 2 USAGE DETAIL

<u>YEAR</u>	<u>KILOWATT HOURS</u>	<u>DEMAND KW</u>	<u>METERS</u>	<u>COST PER KWH</u>	<u>POWER COST</u>
1992	69,779,983	12,456	2,150	0.094	6,571,225
1993	81,824,256	13,800	2,220	0.074	6,054,059
1994	88,908,641	15,920	2,308	0.068	6,039,333
1995	91,896,616	16,610	2,388	0.067	6,195,047
1996	92,859,685	17,870	2,456	0.069	6,417,429
1997	98,822,085	17,770	2,591	0.070	6,929,170
1998	101,156,220	19,768	2,651	0.067	6,741,000

TABLE 3 EXPENSES

<u>YEAR</u>	<u>OPERATION</u>	<u>MAINTENANCE</u>	<u>DEPRECIATION</u>	<u>BOND INTEREST</u>	<u>IN LIEU OF TAXES</u>	
1992	6,986,478	152,114	260,871	132,210	300,000	(a)
1993	6,653,616	254,420	392,080	122,690	66,000	
1994	6,650,205	244,462	458,939	104,950	76,600	
1995	6,805,938	311,566	489,386	92,450	82,000	
1996	7,106,359	296,363	304,331	84,200	88,000	
1997	7,501,438	279,162	313,234	77,340	138,000	(b)
1998	7,683,562	242,073	325,400	71,880	140,000	(c)

(a) Includes \$ 225,000 in Square Project.

(b) Includes \$ 50,000 in Howe Station Project

(c) Includes \$ 50,000 in Howe Station Project



FIRE DEPARTMENT



To the Honorable Board of Selectmen and Citizens of Middleton:

MISSION STATEMENT:

The primary mission of the Middleton Fire Department is to protect lives and property and improve the quality of LIFE in the Town of Middleton. This is accomplished through fire prevention, fire suppression, hazardous material control, and fire alarm communications for all who live, work or invest in the community. I hereby submit to you the report of the Fire Department for the period July 1, 1997 to June 30, 1998:

The Fire Department consists of permanent and call personnel. The permanent force is composed of: Chief, Captain, three Lieutenants, two Firefighters and one Dispatcher.

The call force consists of: one Captain, two Lieutenants and 17 Firefighters. This combination of personnel gives the Town a complement of 28 men and women serving on the Fire Department.

DEPARTMENT ROSTER:

PERMANENT FORCE:

*** Chief Henry Michalski, Jr.
* Captain David T. Leary, Sr.
* Lieutenant William O'Neil
*** Lieutenant Frank Twiss
* Lieutenant Timothy O'Connell
* Firefighter Charles S. Clinch IV
* Firefighter Kenneth LeColst
* Dispatcher Lily McCormack

CALL FORCE:

* Captain Charles S. Clinch III
**** Lieutenant David P. Santamaria
* Lieutenant Thomas Martinuk
** Firefighter Robert Aldenberg
* Firefighter Jeffrey Barber
* Firefighter Andrew Bouchard
* Firefighter Peter Beauparlant
**** Firefighter Eric J. Christopher



**** Firefighter Craig Clough
* Firefighter William Clough
* Firefighter Douglas Donovan
* Firefighter Peter B. Francis
* Firefighter James Hannon
* Firefighter Chris Huston
**** Firefighter Scott L'Abbe
**** Firefighter Douglas LeColst
* Firefighter James Miller
* Firefighter James Muise
* Firefighter Richard F. Nash
* Firefighter John O'Connor

KEY

* Registered Emergency Medical Tech.
** First Responder, 105 CMR 171.000
MGL c. 111 c. 201
*** Emergency Medical Tech / Intermediate
**** Emergency Medical Tech / Paramedic

Total EMT's	20
Total EMT's / Intermediate	2
Total EMT's / Paramedic	5
Total First Responders	1

We did receive several applications for membership during the past year, and are presently scheduling interviews for prospective candidates.

MANPOWER:

Availability of personnel is still at a critical level. The new position of Monday through Friday that you approved at the last Town Meeting will help a little, but there is still a real need to consider adding full time firefighters to the staff. While the call force still serves the town well, their availability during the day hours is becoming less and less, due to requirements of their full-time occupations.

During the past year, there were 14 incidents where no off duty personnel returned to answer alarms. There were 25 incidents where only one person returned to augment the on-duty personnel.

To meet the U.S. Occupational Safety and Health Administration and National Fire Protection Association (1500) Standards, we will need to place a minimum of one additional Firefighter / EMT on duty on each shift. This will allow the department to respond with three people to each emergency, thereby meeting the minimum response requirement.

INCIDENTS:

The Fire Department responded to a total of 1,736 incidents during 1997-98. This actually was an increase of 39 incidents over 1996-97. It is worth noting that we did have a dramatic increase in building fires, up from 10 in 1995-96 to 21 in 1996-97. The incidents are broken down as follows:

<u>Type</u>	<u>Number</u>
Buildings.....	21
Chimney Fires.....	2
Motor Vehicles.....	12
Brush and Grass.....	54
Rubbish, Trash, Dump.....	7
Spills (gasoline, oil, etc.).....	6
Medical Aids (basic life support).....	324
Medical Aids (advanced life support).....	106
Motor Vehicle Accidents.....	141
Mutual Aid Medical Aid.....	25
Mutual Aid.....	33
Medical Aid No Transport.....	155
Burnt Food on Stoves.....	118
Investigations.....	53
Electrical.....	20
Delayed Ignition (oil burners).....	17
Defective Gas Appliances.....	5
Service Calls (house, car lockouts, etc.)	211
Pumping Flooded Cellars.....	55
Assist Police & other Town Departments	17
Illegal Burning.....	19
Defective Elevators.....	6
False Alarms (street boxes).....	17
Alarm Activations (needless).....	142
Lightning Strikes.....	5
Investigation (gas odor).....	34
Carbon Monoxide Detector Activation.....	131
Total Responses 1997/1998	1,736

We answered a total of **890** incidents from the hours of 0700 (7:00 AM) to 1600 hours (4:00 PM). The remaining **846** incidents were from 1700 hours (5:00 PM) to 0600 hours (6:00 AM).

The department received mutual aid from the surrounding communities a total of seventy-five times during the past year.

APPARATUS:



The apparatus of the department is in fair to good condition. As of this year the inventory remains the same as last year:

- 1992 - Chevy Sedan (Chief's car)
- 1993 - Ford 350 Pick-Up (Squad 5)
- 1989 - Ford E350 Ambulance (Rescue 6)
- 1995 - Ford E350 Ambulance (Rescue 1)
- 1982 - Ford F350 Utility Body
(Fire Alarm Maintenance)
- 1972 - International Pump (Engine 2)
- 1979 - Ward LaFrance Pump (Engine 3)
- 1986 - Hahn Pump (Engine 1)
- 1981 - International Chassis (Ladder 1),
with a 1961 Aerial Device
- 1981 - Mack tractor (Engine 4),
with a 1965 Heil Trailer
- 1988 - Cox Boat trailer, with 1989 Bombard
Commando boat with motor for
water rescue
- 1988 - Wire trailer (Fire Alarm)

Two general purpose trailers used for HazMat incidents.

The **new ladder truck** should be in during the month of February or March of 1999. The ladder truck committee spent many hours of research looking at several different aerial ladder trucks and speaking with many



sales representatives. It was the recommendation of the committee that we purchase a **105' Sutphen aerial device**. This truck was picked because it met all the requirements of the Town of Middleton for its anticipated future use during the next 25 to 30 years. In addition, it was the only ladder truck that would fit through the existing station doors. We invite you all in to see the new ladder truck when it arrives.

In 1999, we need to consider replacement of Engine 3, which is a 1979 Ward LaFrance Pump, as noted above. This piece of equipment has reached its maximum age to be considered as a first line piece of emergency equipment by the Insurance Service Office rating standard. Not replacing it adversely affects our insurance rates for the Town.

Squad 5 (1993 Ford 350 Pick-Up), our main utility vehicle, needs to be replaced. It is used extensively to accomplish the daily routine calls. Just to mention a few of the demands placed upon it, the Squad 5 is used for responding to small outside fires, transporting additional personnel to other incidents as needed, plugging out fire alarm boxes, making inspections, and picking up parts for the department mechanic.

The Fire Alarm Maintenance Vehicle (1982 Ford F350 Utility Body) should also be considered for replacement. In an effort to save some funds, I would suggest that instead of replacing Squad 5, we retain it and transfer over the boom from the Fire Alarm Maintenance Vehicle. By doing this, we would extend the life of the 1993 Squad 5 pickup, as it would receive less use on a daily basis. This strategy would be similar to what we did with the second ambulance several years ago. I feel that this would allow the town to receive the maximum use of our vehicles.

ENHANCED 9-1-1

9-1-1 has been on line in Middleton since May of 1997. In the first two quarters of 1998, we answered a total of 648 calls. I would like to stress that this is an **emergency number only** and should not be used for any other purpose. When calling for information, please continue to use 774-2466 or 774-0700. Your cooperation is greatly appreciated.

While the non-emergency calls to 9-1-1 are becoming less and less, we still receive a few. If you should call 9-1-1 by accident, please stay on the line so the dispatcher can verify that it was a wrong number or accidental call. Otherwise, if you hang up without speaking, we are required to

dispatch equipment and personnel to your residence or place of business to determine if an emergency exists.



We should also consider adding two (2) additional dispatchers (9-1-1 operators). These people can be used to augment the night and weekend shifts.

RADIO SYSTEM:

The radio system is in good operating order. The Fire Alarm Superintendent has installed repeaters in several locations throughout the town. This allows the maximum reception for our portable and mobile radios. However, there is still a need for an additional satellite receiver in the north end of town to improve reception in this difficult area.

HEALTH AND SAFETY:



The exhaust system you approved for the fire station has not been installed. We are waiting to see what is going to happen with the Building Study Committee. As the exhaust system is a costly project, it would not be prudent to hastily install said system and then have to tear it down and relocate it to a different part of the building, resulting in additional expense to residents.

We have been in the process of replacing the self-contained breathing apparatus tanks that the firefighters wear to enter hazardous areas. The new tanks we have been purchasing are lightweight (21.8 pounds) compared to the old 32 pound tanks we

were previously. The new tanks allow firefighters to function for longer periods at emergency incidents, as they are not additionally fatigued from carrying heavy tanks on their backs.



Each member of the department has been issued their own face piece for the self-contained breathing apparatus. In addition, each member has been issued his or her own personal alert safety system. This device is activated when personnel enter a hazardous area. If they should be injured or rendered unconscious, and don't move within 30 seconds, an alarm sounds, allowing us to search for the injured or trapped firefighter.

TRAINING AND EDUCATION:

The department continues to conduct its own training program on Monday nights and occasionally on weekends. In addition to the regular drill schedule, several members have been attending special outside courses conducted by such organizations as the State Fire Academy and the National Fire Academy. The courses provided are extremely beneficial to the town and the department.

The hours spent in attending these specialized courses are often done on the individuals own time and at their own expense. The town and department are very fortunate to have such dedicated individuals whose knowledge and experience will benefit the town and department operating format.



HAZARDOUS MATERIALS TRAINING:

Hazardous material training is an ever on-going process, as are many of the programs with which the department is involved. Again, the department attempts to conduct its own in-house training whenever possible, but there are times when we have to call in specialized instructors to assist us.

Given the financial constraints placed on fire departments, it is extremely difficult to maintain a level of efficiency to effectively handle a hazardous materials incident. It becomes incumbent on the agencies, which mandate this training to become fiscally responsible for the proper training of personnel. However, due to the current economic decline, the funding sources are found to be inadequate. Following is an outline of continual training that must be conducted on an annual basis:

- A) E.M.T. and E.M.D. Recertification: 28 hours every 2 years, along with a yearly 21 hour refresher course;
- B) Semi-Automatic Defibrillator Recertification: Quarterly;
- C) Epinephrine Auto Injection Recertification: Quarterly;
- D) C.P.R.: Yearly;
- E) Infection Control Continuing Education: Yearly
- F) Hazardous Materials Training: Yearly

Additionally, the following recommended training is needed to meet the demands of the department:

- A) Updated Firefighter 1 & 2 competency updates and certification.
- B) Continuing education of Officers and Firefighters.
- C) Continuing education for Fire Education Personnel.
- D) Certification of Fire Investigation Personnel.
- E) Confined Space Rescue Training.
- F) Medical Dispatch Procedures.

As in past years, these are just some of the problems that are facing the department today. With the increase in technological advances by society, it becomes evident that the department needs to stay current with these in order to provide the level of service to which the residents have become accustomed.

EMERGENCY MEDICAL SERVICES:

The department continues to conduct its own training program consistent with all applicable State, Federal and Local statutes.



Emergency medical services continue to keep the department active. In addition to emergency response calls for medical assistance, the E.M.S. division provides many other functions in its day to day operations. Among these are: responses to hazardous material incidents, structure fires, wildland fires and motor vehicle accidents. Their primary role is to support functions already in progress. They also provide Emergency Rehabilitation Services to personnel operating on scene. This has become a very valuable resource on scene in providing immediate medical care to personnel or citizens who may become ill, injured or dehydrated during and after an incident.

In addition, the E.M.S. division is involved with a number of community programs. The department provides free blood pressure clinics, CPR and First Responder Training courses to the public. Additionally, it conducts training for many public and private organizations throughout the town such as Bostik, Bell Atlantic, and any town department that needs or wishes to be trained.

The E.M.S. division also works closely with the schools and library in providing tours for the pupils and teachers, and the staff and patrons at the library. This results in a better understanding of our operations and helps alleviate some of the fears associated with a medical emergency.

As always, your fire department strives to provide a level of service that will continue to be on the leading edge throughout the State.

We are very happy to have appointed a department physician. **Mark E. Allara, M.D.**, from the Family Medical Group at One Central Street, has volunteered his time and expertise to serve in that capacity. He is responsible for guiding and directing the members of the department concerning their health, fitness, and suitability for various duties. Dr. Allara also serves as our medical director for our emergency medical technician and paramedic programs. We are very fortunate to have a person like Dr. Allara who has the dedication and town spirit to serve our community.



FIRE PREVENTION ACTIVITIES:

The fire prevention division of the department has continued to experience a dramatic increase in inspection activity. This upward change is a reflection of the increase in residential and commercial construction. In addition to initial inspections for fire safety, fire prevention focuses on education to enhance a **fire safe attitude**. Classes on Fire Extinguishers and Fire Prevention for businesses, fire safety talks to children and the elderly, and public service announcements on the local cable channel, are just a few examples of our commitment to promote fire prevention in our town.

During the 1997-98 fiscal year, our department received a **S.A.F.E.** (Student Awareness of Fire Education) grant from the Commonwealth of Massachusetts. The grant funds were used to enhance our fire safety education programs through additional training and materials. Firefighters are now able to visit the schools more frequently and provide up-to-date training programs. These include "Play Safe, Be Safe" for preschool and kindergarten students, and "Safe-T-Rider" for second graders.

"Play Safe, Be Safe" was made available by the Bic Corporation and has been a great success in teaching basic fire safety to the preschool and kindergarten classes. The "Safe-T-Rider" program was provided by the Elevator/ Escalator Safety Foundation. The entire second grade participated in this program, which was both enjoyable and educational. The subject of the program was the safe and proper way of riding escalators, elevators and moving walks.

The S.A.F.E. grant allowed the department to purchase a "Sparky the Fire Dog" suit, which has become a favorite of the young children. From the grant, we also purchased plastic fire helmets and badges, "Tot Finder" stickers, bookcovers, pencils, pamphlets and calendars that are available for distribution to the public.

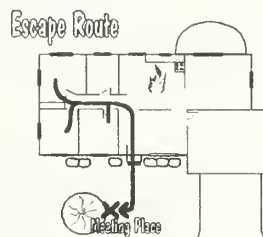


Remember, fire can strike without warning. To be safe you have to be ready. Take the time now to complete a home fire safety check.

Install smoke detectors if you haven't already. For those who have already installed detectors, be sure they are clean and free of dust. Test the batteries monthly and replace the batteries yearly.



Sit down with family members and devise a **Family Escape Plan** for your home. The plan should include **two (2) ways out of every room**, plus a meeting place outside of your home, to be certain that all members are safely out of the building.



Purchase a multi-purpose (ABC) extinguisher and learn how to use it properly. The extinguisher should be located near exit doors.

One issue that has raised many questions and concerns by the public is the danger of carbon monoxide poisoning. Carbon monoxide (CO) is a colorless, odorless, and highly toxic gas. Carbon monoxide is a by-product of combustion, present whenever fuel is burned. Common home appliances, such as gas or oil furnaces, gas clothes dryers, water heaters, and automobiles produce it.

Malfunctioning heating equipment, blocked chimneys, indoor use of barbecue grills, use of cooking appliances for heating purposes, poor ventilation, and automobile exhaust in an attached garage can cause carbon monoxide to enter a home.

If carbon monoxide goes undetected and the levels increase, carbon monoxide poisoning can occur. Symptoms such as headaches, dizziness, weakness, nausea, vomiting, tightening of the chest, convulsions, redness of the eyes, sleepiness, confusion and ringing in the ears are some of the effects of carbon monoxide on the body. Prolonged exposure can lead to unconsciousness, brain damage, or death.

To protect yourself and your family from carbon monoxide poisoning, install at least one carbon monoxide detector near the sleeping area. An additional detector near the home heat source can provide extra protection. Choose an Underwriters Laboratories (UL) listed detector that sounds an audible alarm. In addition to installing carbon monoxide detectors, residents should regularly inspect and service potential problem sources of carbon monoxide.

If you or your family member encounter any danger signs of carbon monoxide poisoning, if there is a suspicion that a carbon monoxide problem exists, or if a carbon monoxide detector activates, evacuate the home immediately and call the fire department. The firefighters can render emergency care and also use special equipment to measure the levels of carbon monoxide in the home.

If you would like some help in planning a home fire escape plan, if you would like a home fire safety check, or if you have any questions concerning fire safety or fire prevention, please contact the fire department at 774-2466. Arrangements can be made to help you keep your home safe. We have two slide programs on "Preventing Home Fires" and "Escaping Home Fires" and numerous videos on fire safety, which are available for your education.

FIRE SAFETY TIPS TO REMEMBER:

- ♥ Install at least one smoke detector on each level of your home.
- ♥ **DO NOT** disable a smoke detector when it sounds off.
- ♥ Know what to do after a detector sounds off.
- ♥ Plan a home escape route in the event of a fire.
- ♥ Install at least one carbon monoxide detector.

INSPECTIONS & PERMITS		
Oil Burner Inspection	59	
Reinspection	11	
Permits Issued		59
Fire Alarm Inspection	176	
Reinspection	34	
Permits Issued		176
Liquid Propane Storage	29	
Reinspection	5	
Permits Issued		29
Tank Truck Inspection	6	
Reinspection	0	
Permits Issued		6
Blasting Permit	11	
Blast Witnessed	67	
Permits Issued		11

MISCELLANEOUS PERMITS		
Sprinkler Permits	6	
Flammable Liquid	14	
Tent Permit	0	
Tar Kettle	0	
Welding / Cutting	4	
Underground Tank Removal	18	
Plans Review (residential, fire & heat detection, sprinklers, and fire extinguishers).	112	
Burning Permit Issued		409
Calls for permission to burn	1,364	

NOTE: Burning Permits are good for one (1) season, but a call to the fire department MUST be made on each day of burning.

FIRE ALARM:

The **Fire Alarm System** is in excellent repair and condition. Maintenance and care of the system is the key to reliable, cost effective operation. The fire alarm system is cared for in its entirety by the Superintendent of Fire Alarm, and remains basically self-supporting through fees charged directly to the users. All town owned buildings are protected by this system. Expansion of the system continues at a rapid rate again this year due to many construction projects in progress. All costs associated with the expansion process are borne by the developers and / or builder(s).



**FOR FIRE
& EMERGENCY
CALL 9-1-1**

Provide the telecommunicator
with the following information:

- ☎ Your name
- ☎ The address where the emergency
is located
- ☎ What the emergency is
- ☎ How many people are injured or
need help
- ☎ What is being done for the victims
- ☎ Your telephone number
- ☎ **DO NOT HANG UP UNTIL TOLD TO!**

In the event you have no telephone, use the
fire alarm box in your area. **STAY** at the fire
alarm box until apparatus and personnel
arrive. Immediately direct them to the
problem.

RECOMMENDATIONS:

- Addition of Six (6) full time firefighters.
- Addition of One (1) full time Fire Prevention Inspector.
- Replacement of Engine 3 (1979 Ward LaFrance Pump)
- Replacement of Squad 5 (1993 Ford F350 pick-up)
- Replacement of Fire Alarm Maintenance Vehicle (1982 Ford F350)
- Addition of two (2) Emergency 9-1-1 operators (dispatchers) to augment weekend and night shifts

I would like to take this opportunity to thank the Board of Selectmen, Town Administrator, Department Heads and the Citizens of the Town of Middleton for their continued cooperation during the past year.

To the members of the department and your families, thank you for your assistance throughout the past year. Many times you may think that your efforts go unnoticed or are not appreciated, but this is far from the case. Your well being and dedication toward providing safety to the residents of the town are very much in my thoughts at all times.

Respectfully submitted,

Henry Michalski, Jr.
Chief of Department

FLINT PUBLIC LIBRARY

I respectfully submit the Annual Report for the Flint Public Library after serving as the Library Director since September 1997. During my short tenure, I have been extremely impressed with the friendliness and receptiveness of the community and the outstanding dedication and commitment of the Flint Library staff. I consider myself extremely fortunate to have inherited a first-rate staff with every member performing with zeal, professionalism and earnest devotion to the institution and community. The library staff has been responsible for making the library a town agency that proactively addresses the educational, recreational and information needs of Middleton residents.

The mission of the Flint Public Library is to inform, enrich and empower every person in this community, by creating and promoting easy access to a vast array of ideas and information, and by supporting an informed citizenry, lifelong learning and love of reading.

While the Flint has been committed to collecting and organizing materials of enduring contemporary interest over the years, it has recently expanded its scope of service to include the electronic retrieval of information through the Internet and CD-ROM resources.

In the autumn of 1997, the Flint Public Library applied for, and was selected to become, one of a small group of **MediaOne Library Connections Partners**. As one of thirteen Library Partners in the state, the Flint Public Library received three high-speed fiberoptic Internet connections. Patrons can now instantly download photos from the Smithsonian collection or view live video footage of a shuttle launch. These connections afford Middleton residents free Internet access at a speed fifty times faster than a standard telephone connection.

Through the Library Connections program, the Flint will be the recipient of a host of video-based services and taped educational programming for adults and children. In the near future, children's programs and all special cultural and educational programs taking place at the library can be viewed on local cable.

With the installation of two new computer workstations, the Flint Public Library made available a large variety of CD ROM products; computer software applications and Internet based databases to patrons of all ages and interests.



Now, students can use such CD ROM reference tools as *Endangered Species*, *3-D Atlas*, *World Book Encyclopedia*, the *American Presidents*, *Discovery Geography*, and the complete *Magic School Bus* series, to mention only a few.

Microsoft Word 97, *Microsoft Works*, *Access* and *Excel*, as well as, *Microsoft Greetings Workshop* and *Publisher*, are available for desktop publishing, resume preparation and spreadsheet/database creation. In addition, the Flint subscribes to the online versions of the *Grolier's Multimedia Encyclopedia* and the *Encyclopedia Americana*, both with updated articles linked to highly pertinent subject-related Web sites.

If a patron is interested in finding full text magazine articles on a particular subject, the Flint is able to exploit the wealth of indexed articles found on *Searchbank* and in the Social Issues Research Services (SIRS) databases. These databases can be accessed on Flint Public Library workstations and provide thousands of full-text articles on social, health, historic, business, economic, political and global issues.

Now articles can be extracted from more than 2,000 newspapers, magazines, journals and government publications. Consequently, searching for periodical information is much more sophisticated, comprehensive and efficient with the new technology at the Flint.

In addition to its foray into electronic media, the Flint has attempted to purchase more books-on-tape and is developing an extensive **audiobook collection** in response to the high demand for these materials. The Flint also has a vast **magazine collection** of more than 120 titles, which circulates briskly. This is also the case with **Museum Passes** to more than 20 Boston/Regional museums and attractions.

Attempting to be as progressive and responsive as possible, the Flint Public Library took advantage of two grant application opportunities this past year. The first grant application was a National Leadership Grant, submitted to the Institute of Museum and Library Services. This grant proposed that the Flint would work collaboratively with the Lura Woodside Watkins Museum to inventory, organize, manage, preserve, digitize and disseminate significant historic Middleton documents, rare books, photography, maps and realia. The grant calls for the technical expertise of a professional conservator, an image scanning and digitization expert, and an Internet Web developer to perform a range of activities which would preserve the library and museum's valuable historic collections and increase their accessibility.



A second grant was submitted to the Massachusetts Board of Library Commissioners, for the establishment of a Homework Center in the Children's Department. This grant would supply funding for the purchase of a workstation with a variety of current CD ROM applications



and Internet link, and electronic and print reference resources. A component of this grant involves homework coaches who will

be available every day after school to assist students with assignments, reports and research projects. Materials for this grant will be purchased with input from Middleton's educational community and with the new curriculum frameworks in mind.

Once again the Flint's Children's Department was exceedingly busy this past year, providing separate weekly story hour sessions for 3 year olds and 3 1/2 – 5 year olds. A monthly program was added to the children's venue this year. It is called **"Music, Movement and Mother Goose"** and is geared toward one to four year olds. This program features nursery rhymes, poems, puppet play, songs and simple dance steps for the very youngest patrons.



"Music, Movement & Mother Goose"
with Dara

The library continues to offer a weekly **Mothers' Group** as a time for new moms and children to informally interact and make new friends. **Craft programs**, such as yo-yo and Frisbee making, acorn candle holders, squish art, snowman mobiles and bubble finger paint are offered every month for preschoolers and older children.

Special educational and enrichment programs have been presented during the school year and as part of the library's **Summer Reading Program**. These have been very popular and often attract 'standing-room only' crowds in the Children's Room. They have included: David Hill and His Puppets, Teddy Bear Picnic, Summer Reading Program Pizza Party and Ice Cream Celebrations, Fire Prevention Program with "Sparky", a Hanukkah Story Program, Family Holiday

Open House, an MSPCA pet program, Irish Step Dancing demonstration, an appearance by Pocohantas and story-telling by the acclaimed performer Tony Toledo.

As a part of 'No TV Week' in April, co-sponsored with the two Middleton elementary schools, the library set up daily programs - jump-roping, chalk walk drawing, board games and 'Family Story Time' featuring such local luminaries as Chief Paul Armitage, Ira Singer and Nancy Jones.



'No TV Week'
Yo-yo Making Project



The Storytelling Team
Family Reading Night

The Flint Public Library depends on the support and dedication of its dedicated **'Tuesday Morning Volunteers'**. They meet unfailingly to take care of the organization, maintenance and preparation of library materials for circulation to the public.



Volunteer Recognition Luncheon

The **Friends of the Flint** have also contributed to the library's outreach to the community sponsoring the Boston Pops Holiday Trip, Museum Passes, the Holiday Neighbors in Need Program, and the long-standing Masconomet Scholarship Program. This year the Friends of the Flint has been fortunate to attract Mona Cocciardi as the new President of this organization with Lory Cristoforo as Vice President, Bernadette Powers as Treasurer and Kathy Bergeron as Secretary. This new slate of officer's plans to make the Friends more visible and active by recruiting and mobilizing new members who will be instrumental in advocacy and fundraising for the upcoming library addition/renovation project.

The **Flint's Board of Trustees** lost member Bill Dalton over the past year, due to his relocation to Florida. He was replaced with Brenda Kirwan who was elected to the Board in the May election, along with incumbents Ted Novakowski and Lois Gianni. The Flint's Board now consists of Chairperson, Leonard Stone; Treasurer, Marion Gilman; Secretary, Ted Novakowski; Lois Gianni and newcomer, Brenda Kirwan.

The Trustees are working to move the Flint into an advantageous and forward-looking position so it can exploit every opportunity for the imminent expansion project. The Trustees are steadfast in their commitment that the Flint Public Library's historic 1890's character and architectural elements remain unchanged and that the new addition is respectful of the original Victorian Romanesque building.

As the most noteworthy and architecturally significant civic building in Middleton, with Nova Scotia limestone trimmings and ornamental Aschlar brick, 100 year old cypress interior woodwork and handpainted memorial windows by the renowned artist Donald McDonald, the preservation of the Flint is foremost in conjunction with the enlargement of the facility.

The Flint has increased its service and impact on the community with each passing year and 1997-98 was no exception. The library's circulation *statistics indicate that almost three times the numbers of materials were borrowed in 1997 as compared to 1987. Library visits by Middleton residents have almost doubled over the past ten years.* A comparative breakout of library use statistics is provided below demonstrating, the increased utilization of library services and resources:

**Total Library Circulation
and
Attendance Statistics
Over A Ten Year Period**

	1986 - 1987	1997 - 1998	% Increase
Attendance	27,210	38,718	42%
Circulation	23,899	55,492	132%

**Comparison of Borrowing Statistics Over
a 10 year Period by Material Type**

	1986 - 1987	1997 - 1998	% Increase
Adult Fiction	6,883	8,369	22%
Adult Nonfiction	2,751	4,021	46%

Juvenile Fiction	9,274	20,029	116%
Juvenile Nonfiction	2,631	5,926	125%
Periodicals	2,597	3,609	39%
Audio Books	N/A	1,288	----
Museum Passes	N/A	431	----
Cassettes/ Book Sets	N/A	615	----
Videos	N/A	10,137	----
Other	225	773	

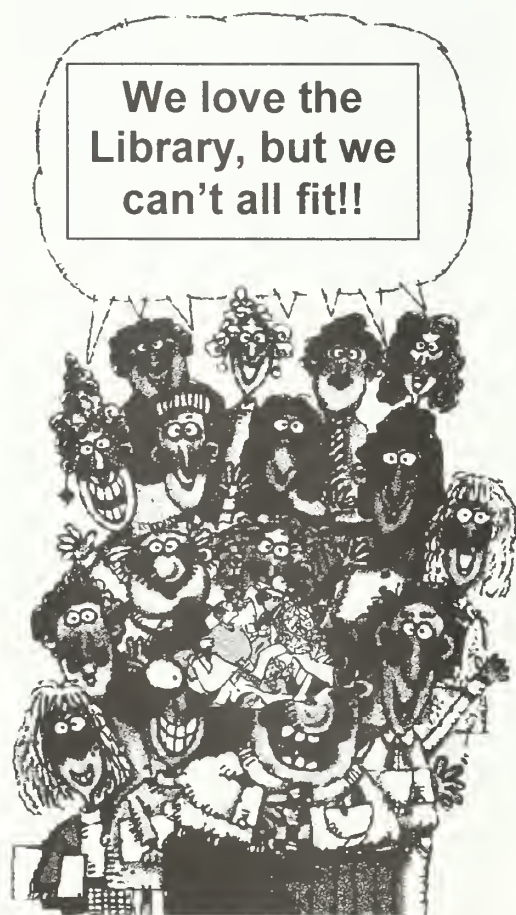
While it is abundantly evident that the Flint Public Library use has increased monumentally over the past years, the facility has not increased its physical capacity. The Flint Library is woefully inadequate in terms of space allocation and functional configuration.

Every year the Flint Public Library is mandated by the Massachusetts Board of Library Commissioners to spend 19% of its operational budget on books and materials if it is to enjoy the enjoy the privileges of interlibrary loan and delivery, plus qualify for state moneys – the annual stipends from the Municipal Equalization and Library Incentive Grants. Moreover, failure to spend the 19% on books and materials would prevent the Flint from applying for Competitive Federal Library Grants and Library Construction money.

What does this mean? Basically, this 19% '**Acquisitions Mandate**' forces the Flint to purchase more than \$42,000 worth of resources which equates to adding more than 1500 new books and 83 linear feet of shelving. Where are these additional materials stored every year? The library will have no option but to add shelving units to house these new acquisitions thereby obliterating the study space in the Main Reading Room and eliminating the Children's Programming space. *In just five years, with the present pace of acquisitions the library will have no reading, study or programming space available. This is a very critical problem.*

Besides the need for space to shelve the library's bulging materials collection, the Flint desperately needs room for the technical processing of books. **Today the library prepares more than 5000 items for patron borrowing compared to 200 items processed per year when the library was designed.**

The Flint would greatly benefit from a *Community Room* to accommodate the large audiences that enthusiastically show up for the children's, cultural and educational programs. Administrative space is nonexistent as well as space for expanded Internet workstations, browsing, periodical display, quiet reading areas, local history and storage.



While space constraints threaten the Flint's ability to provide top-notch service to the community, the facility's mechanical, utilities and structural problems need to be urgently addressed as well.

The **Children's Department** suffers from moisture and humidity problems, producing unhealthy mold and mildew as well as poor air quality.

The absence of air conditioning causes sweltering conditions in the adult and balcony levels during the summer season. The mezzanine level, used for administrative and technical processing purposes, is structurally unsound and needs bolstering. The stairs to this level are steep and treacherous but must be used every day for ongoing library functions. Furthermore, the entire adult services department is not handicapped accessible. Finally, the library's heating system needs to be upgraded, as does the septic system.

With regard to the Flint's repair and preservation needs, the building's brick envelope requires re-cementing and rebuilding, particularly the chimney and peak adjacent to the clock tower. The clock tower is frail with the wooden face requiring replacement. Water proofing of the basement level is necessary to prevent foundation leaks, seepage of water onto carpeting and constant exposure of the books to damaging moisture.

In response to the Flint's glaring need for an addition and renovation work, **Middleton voters wholehearted endorsed the library's request for a Feasibility Study at the May 1998 Town Meeting.** This will be a two-part architectural/engineering study. It will first examine the opportunities for the expansion and renovation of the library, and then study possibilities for the expansion of the fire station in relation to the existing site, or its relocation to another central site in town.

In preparation for the Feasibility Study, a **Library Strategic Plan** was drafted outlining specific targets, objectives and plans for the next five years. After this Strategic Plan was generated, a **Library Building Program** was crafted which serves as a framework for an architect to develop a creative, aesthetically pleasing, functional and progressive structure to take care of community needs and library operations that are projected twenty years into the future.

This program calls for the addition of 10,000 square feet to the present building and breaks down the space requirements for every area of the library from custodial storage to a separate Community Meeting Room.

Even though the Flint's facility will be growing in near future, it will continue to furnish all residents with the very personalized attention they deserve and cherish.

Patrons will continue to be welcomed by name, provided with readers' advisory assistance and with customized reference assistance through the use of new technological resources and the plain old book collection.

Michele M. Mals, Flint Library Director

Staff

Assistant Director: Judy Gallerie
 Reference Librarian: Claudia Johnson
 Children's Librarian: Meredith Turner
 Children's Ass't Librarian: Shirley Matthews
 Outreach Coordinator: Kathy Brunaccini
 Janitor: Albert Pelletier

**"Access to knowledge is the superb,
 the supreme act of truly great
 civilizations.
 Of all the institutions that purport to do
 this,
 Libraries stand virtually alone in
 accomplishing this mission.**

Toni Morrison

Below: Valentine Craft with preschoolers and parents together.

Right: Irish Step Dancing in March



Happy Halloween



*Holiday Open House Sing-A-Long
 (and Dance-A-Long?)*

HISTORICAL COMMISSION

The Middleton Historical Commission thanks Eagle Scouts Jason Masse and Andrew Cote for their attention to their town's history.

Jason Masse cleaned up the Peabody Cemetery on East Street.



Andrew Cote and friends cleaned up, painted and repaired the Tramp House behind the Old Town Hall (now the Senior Center).

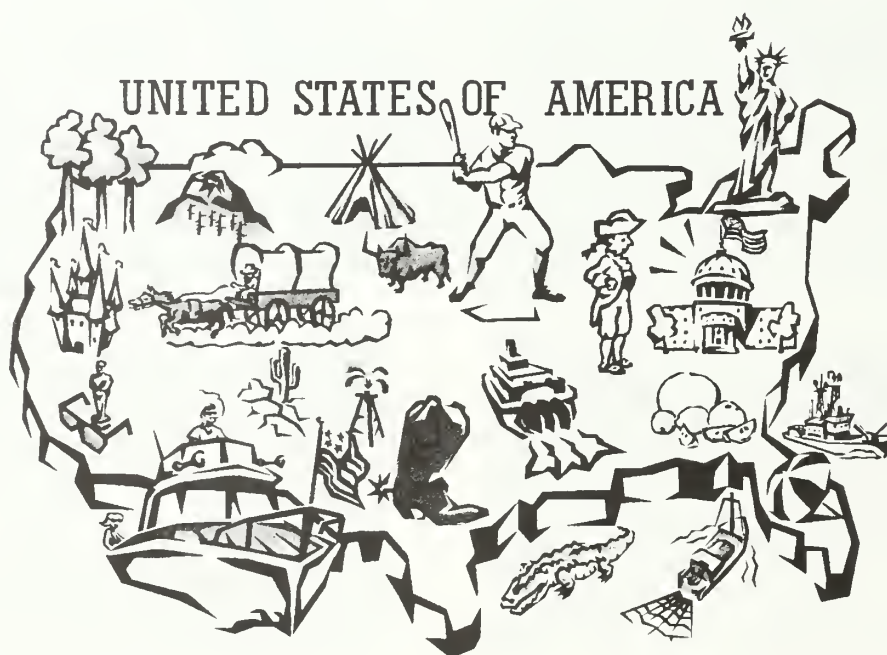


Preservation of these fragments of Middleton's past is a gift from these fine young people to all the citizens of our town.

The Commission recommended the acceptance of the official Town Flag, and was also involved in discussions of renovations to historic town buildings. The Commission maintains an ongoing interest in identifying local historical sites.

Respectfully submitted,

Mary Tragert
Secretary
Middleton Historical Commission



MIDDLETON HOUSING AUTHORITY

PERIOD REPORTED: July 1, 1997 to June 30, 1998

LHA NAME: MIDDLETON
FISCAL YEAR ENDING: June 30, 1998

Program No. 1840240001
No. of Units: 66
Unit Months: 792.00

ACCT	CLASSIFICATION	PROPOSED BUDGET ANNUAL AMOUNT	BUDGET PUM	ACTUAL TO DATE PUM	DATE AMOUNT
OPERATING RECEIPTS					
3110	Shelter Rent - Tenant	186,000.00	234.85	260.55	206,356.00
3115	Shelter Rent - Federal Section 8				
3190	Nondwelling Rentals				
3610	Interest on Investments	2,000.00	2.53	3.37	2,672.95
3690	Other Operating Receipts	2,100.00	2.65	3.40	2,692.90
3000	TOTAL OPERATING RECEIPTS	190,100.00	240.03	267.33	211,721.85
NON UTILITY EXPENDITURES					
4110	Administrative Salaries	23,657.00	29.87	29.87	23,656.02
4130	Legal	150.00	0.19	0.00	0.00
4140	Members Compensation				
4150	Travel & Related Expense	1,000.00	1.26	0.09	71.05
4170	Accounting Services				
4190	Administrative Other	5,665.00	7.15	3.30	2,616.22
4110	TOTAL ADMINISTRATIVE	30,472.00	38.47	33.26	26,343.29
4230	Tenant Organization	50.00	0.06	0.03	25.00
4110	Maintenance Labor	35,043.00	44.25	43.82	34,708.06
4420	Materials & Supplies	7,553.00	9.54	8.60	6,811.92
4430	Contract Costs	7,583.00	9.57	3.35	2,651.58
4400	TOTAL MAINTENANCE	50,179.00	63.36	55.77	44,171.56
4510	Insurance	6,359.00	8.03	5.83	4,615.86
4520	Payment in Lieu of Taxes	3,800.00	4.80	4.36	3,455.68
4540	Employee Benefits	15,500.00	19.57	17.49	13,848.14
4500	TOTAL GENERAL	25,659.00	32.40	27.68	21,919.68
4790	Provision for Operating Reserve		0.00	0.00	
4799	Provision for Capital Reserve				
4700	TOTAL RESERVES	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00

ACCT	CLASSIFICATION	PROPOSED BUDGET ANNUAL AMOUNT	BUDGET PUM	ACTUAL TO DATE PUM	AMOUNT
4800	EOCD - Directed Costs				
4900	Debt Service (Section 8 ONLY)				
	TOTAL NON-UTILITY COSTS	106,360.00	134.29	116.74	92,459.53
	UTILITIES				
4310	Water & Sewer	12,100.00	15.28	12.60	9,975.83
4320	Electricity	51,710.00	65.29	56.79	44,977.73
4330	Gas	110.00	0.14	0.00	
4340	Fuel				
4360	Energy Conservation				
4390	Other - Septic/Sewerage	7,125.00	9.00	7.91	6,261.82
4300	TOTAL UTILITIES	71,045.00	89.70	77.29	61,215.38
4000	TOTAL OPERATING EXPENDITURES	177,405.00	224.00	194.03	153,674.91
	NET INCOME (DEFICIT) BEFORE SUBSIDY	12,695.00	16.03	73.29	58,046.94
7300	Operating Subsidy Earned - Line 11 051-5			0.00	0.00
	NET INCOME (DEFICIT) BEFORE NONROUTINE EXPENDITURES	12,695.00	16.03	73.29	58,046.94
	NONROUTINE EXPENDITURES AND (CREDITS)				
6210	Prior year & Other Adj. Debit (Credit)	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
6510	Extraordinary Maintenance	50,700.00	64.02	2.54	2,010.00
6580	Collection Loss	1,257.00	1.59	1.59	1,257.00
7520	Replacement of Equipment	3,004.00	3.79	3.11	2,464.84
7530	Receipts from Sale of Equipment (Credit)				
7540	Betterments & Additions	2,500.00	3.16	1.64	1,300.00
	TOTAL NONROUTINE (SCHEDULE V)	57,461.00	72.55	8.88	7,031.84
2700	NET INCOME (DEFICIT)	(44,766.00)	(56.52)	64.41	51,015.10



HOUSING AUTHORITY

Administration Balance Sheet

Program Number 1840240001

JUNE 30, 1998

ASSETS

CASH

Administration Fund	34,630.64
Security Deposit Fund	-160.00
Petty Cash	75.00
TOTAL CASH	34,545.64

ACCOUNTS RECEIVABLE

Fed. and EOCD-Sec. 8 Subsidy-Shelter Rent	
Tenant Accounts Receivable	2,984.89
EOCD Subsidy	
Other	
TOTAL RECEIVABLES	2,984.89

ADVANCES

Revolving Fund Advances	
-------------------------	--

INVESTMENTS

Investments (Schedule II)	138,139.02
TOTAL INVESTMENTS	138,139.02

FISCAL AGENT FUNDS

Debt Service Fund (Schedule I)	
Debt Service Trust Fund-Cash (Schedule I)	
Debt Service Trust Fund-Investments (Schedule I)	
Debt Service Subsidy (Schedule VI)	

DEFERRED CHARGES

Prepaid Insurance	1,331.00
Inventory-Materials/Fuel	
Other (Schedule III)	0.00
TOTAL DEFERRED CHARGES	1,331.00

DEVELOPMENT COSTS

Development Cost	2,150,512.35
Less Dev. Cost Liquidation	-101,000.00
TOTAL	2,049,512.35

Inventory of Furniture & Equipment	93,539.64
Dev. Cost Inv. of Furniture & Equip-Contra	-22,379.95
Date of last physical Inventory 06/30/98	
TOTAL	71,159.69
Completed Modernization Cost	363,436.88
TOTAL UNDISTRIBUTED DEBITS	363,436.88

TOTAL ASSETS	2,661,109.47
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LIABILITIES/SURPLUS

ACCOUNTS PAYABLE

Accounts Payable-Other (Schedule IV)	1,300.00
Contract Retentions	
Tenants Security Deposits	
Employee's Payroll Deductions	206.55
Accounts Payable EOCD Subsidy Overpayment	0.00

TOTAL ACCOUNTS PAYABLE	1,506.55
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ACCRUED LIABILITIES

Payment in lieu of Taxes	
Accrued Liabilities-Other	
TOTAL Mat. Int. & Princ. (Schedule VI)	0.00

DEFERRED CREDITS

Prepaid Partial Payments -707	
Tenants Prepaid Rents	1,485.50
Undistributed Credits	
Deferred Subsidy	
Deferred Credits-Other	
TOTAL DEFERRED CREDITS	1,485.50

FIXED LIABILITIES

Grants Issued	1,936,512.35
Bonds Issued	101,000.00
Less: Bonds Retired	-101,000.00
Cumulative EOCD Modernization Contrib.	363,436.88
Notes Issued	
Less: Notes Retired	
TOTAL FIXED LIABILITIES	2,299,949.23

SURPLUS

Valuation of Fixed Assets	71,159.69
Gifts and Donations	113,000.00
Debt Service Reserve	
Unamortized Bond Premium	
Debt Service Requirement	
Debt Service Contribution	
Capital Reserve	6,013.69
Operating Reserve	116,979.71
Net Income (Deficit)	51,015.10

TOTAL SURPLUS	358,168.19
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TOTAL LIABILITIES AND SURPLUS	2,661,109.47
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MIDDLETON HOUSING AUTHORITY

Program Number: 1840240001

SCHEDULE I

	ACCOUNT 1171 DEBT SERVICE FUNDS	ACCOUNT 1172 DEBT SERVICE TRUST FUND CASH	ACCOUNT 1173 DEBT SERVICE TRUST FUND INVESTMENTS
PROJECT			
TOTAL PER BALANCE SHEET	0.00	0.00	0.00

SCHEDULE II**INVESTMENTS - ACCOUNT 1162**

BANK	TYPE	DUE DATE	AMOUNT INVESTED	MATURITY VALUE
MMDT	Money Market	closed		closed
Family Bank	Savings	None	78,585.43	None
Family Bank	Cap Res 6 mo CD	8/4/98	6,013.69	5.35% Rate
Family Bank	6 Mo. Cert.	8/4/98	53,539.90	5.35% Rate
TOTAL PER BALANCE SHEET			138,139.02	

SCHEDULE III**DEFERRED CHARGES - OTHER-ACCOUNT 1290**

TOTAL PER BALANCE SHEET	0.00
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SCHEDULE IV**ACCOUNTS PAYABLE - OTHER-ACCOUNT 2111**

Various Misc.	1,300.00
TOTAL PER BALANCE SHEET	1,300.00

SCHEDULE V***SCHEDULE OF NONROUTINE EXPENDITURES**

PRIOR YEAR & OTHER ADJUSTMENTS DEBIT (CREDIT)-ACCT. 6210	AMOUNT
TOTAL - Account 6210	0.00
EXTRAORDINARY MAINTENANCE-ACCT. 6510	2,010.00
TOTAL - Account 6510	2,010.00

REPLACEMENT OF NONEXPENDABLE EQUIPMENT-ACCT. 7540

Refrigerators (4)	1,540.00
Water Heater	764.88
Weed Trimmer	159.96



TOTAL - Account 7520	2,464.84
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PROPERTY BETTERMENTS AND ADDITIONS-ACCT. 7540

Parking Lot Improvement	1,300.00
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TOTAL - Account 7451	1,300.00
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SCHEDULE VI

PROJECT	MATURED INTEREST AND PRINCIPAL ACCT. 2140	A/R DEBT SERVICE SUBSIDY ACCT. 1176	DEBT SERVICE CONTRIBUTION ACCT. 2553
TOTAL PER BALANCE SHEET	0.00	0.00	0.00



MIDDLETON HOUSING AUTHORITY

REPORT OF TENANTS ACCOUNTS RECEIVABLE

QUARTER ENDED June 30, 1998

1840240001	No. of Dwelling Units	66
Program/Development Number		66
A. No. of Tenants in Possession (Last Day of Current Quarter)		\$ 16,984.00
B. Total Charges to Tenants (Last Month of Current Quarter)		
MODERNIZATION		75,953.56

MOD GRANTS EXPENDED DURING THIS FISCAL YEAR:

These funds were expended for site improvements at 667-1, Orchard Circle .

MANAGEMENT

The extensive waiting list for family housing continues and is now at seven plus years. Unfortunately, this trend won't change unless funding for family housing is increased.

The elderly and the disabled have about a 6 month wait for a housing unit and we are pleased to report that we expect this to be the situation for at least the next year.



ADMINISTRATIVE

The authority was saddened by the 12/1/97 death of our state-appointee, Mr. A. Stephen Inglis. He had served in this capacity since 6/18/91. In his position, he was responsible for establishing and monitoring the achievement of goals for the authority, as well as establishing policy. Mr. Inglis was responsible for ensuring the integrity of the authority, advocating for low-income, maintaining good community relations and supporting tenant participation in the administration of public housing. His dedication and commitment to service in his community will be missed.

SUMMARY

In conclusion, the Middleton Housing Authority would like to acknowledge the Fire Department, the Police Department and the Public Works Department for their help and cooperation throughout the year.

Respectfully submitted,

Kathleen A. Thurston, P.H.M., Executive Director
Charles M. Collier, Chairperson
Faith Anderson-Stone, Vice-Chairperson
Mary Jane Morrin, Treasurer
Paul J. Clauss, Assistant Chairperson

Paul A. Pellicelli, Maintenance Mechanic

BUILDING INSPECTOR

RESIDENTIAL		
61	New Dwellings	\$13,793,500.00
12	Condominium Units	2,508,000.00
1	Two-Family Conversion	39,000.00
52	Additions	961,385.00
60	Renovations	372,900.00
15	Accessory Buildings	113,400.00
6	Wood Stoves / Chimneys	1,500.00
18	Swimming Pools	104,600.00
12	Residential Demolition (Includes Accessory Buildings)	32,600.00
5	Other Permits	29,000.00

COMMERCIAL		
6	New Commercial Buildings	\$5,943,000.00
15	Additions / Renovations	1,319,645.00
2	Telecommunication Facilities	109,160.00
22	Signs	66,099.00
8	Temp Tents/Trailers	N/A
2	Commercial Demolition	14,000.00

GOVERNMENT OWNED BUILDING		
1	Addition/Renovation	200,000.00

298 TOTAL	\$25,607,789.00
BUILDING PERMITS ISSUED	

FEES COLLECTED – FY 98		
298	Building Permits	\$152,034.12
260	Electrical Permits	49,441.00
130	Plumbing Permits	41,872.00
135	Gas Permits	5,535.00
85	Occupancy Permits	1,375.00
2	Fines	55.00
910	TOTAL PERMIT FEES COLLECTED	\$250,312.12

INSPECTIONS CONDUCTED FY 98	
Building Inspections	832
Electrical Inspections	733
Plumbing / Gas Inspections	566
Court Appearances	4
TOTAL TRIPS	2135

FY- 98 ANNUAL REPORT



The Building Department issued permits for 74 new dwelling units in FY 98. This was an increase of two (2) over FY 97.

Commercial construction showed a substantial increase this fiscal year with six (6) new commercial buildings with a valuation in excess of \$5,000,000.00. A significant improvement has been realized in the South Main Street Commercial Zone with the construction this year of the new baseball facility, Boston Beauty Supply and the new building housing the East Coast Flight Craft Boat facility, which is shared with the Danvers Yellow Jackets Gymnastic Gymnasium. The former Bicknell Company Warehouse has also been remodeled into an attractive building and is now occupied by The Boston Lawnmower Company and The St. Cyr Pool Center.

The Bostik Company also continued to expand this year with the addition of a new 15,000 square foot building.



The Inspectors conducted more than 2100 inspections this year, an increase of greater than 200 over the previous year.

The Inspectors responsible for all phases of building components are committed to making sure that all public buildings are constructed in accordance with all codes and are maintained properly to assure a safe environment for all.

I would like to thank all the members of my staff, Department Heads, all Board Members and residents for their continued support.

A special thanks to members of the Police and Fire Departments for the assistance and support they provided to the inspectors during the year when called upon.

Respectfully Submitted

Robert M. Aldenberg
Inspector of Buildings & Zoning Officer

Staff Members

William Cashman, Local Inspector
Alfred Jones, Electrical Inspector
William Smith, Plumbing/Gas Inspector
Florence Leary, Secretary





INSPECTOR OF PLUMBING AND GAS

The responsibility of the Plumbing Inspector is to inspect the installation of waste, vent and water distribution lines in commercial establishments and residential dwellings.

The important issues inspected for are: properly vented fixtures to insure against sewer gas entering any building, proper pipe sizing for flow of waste materials and ample sizing of water distribution lines to feed fixtures in a building.

Plumbing inspections average about 370 per year.

The responsibility of the Gas Inspector is to insure that all heating units, gas appliances, fire place units, etc. are properly vented to prevent carbon monoxide gases from entering a dwelling or place of business. Other areas of inspection are: proper pipe sizing, location of vents that would be too close to combustible material, proper support hangers, and pressure testing every gas supply line.

Gas inspections average about 180 per year.

Respectfully Submitted

William Smith
Plumbing & Gas Inspector

INSPECTOR OF WIRES



To the honorable Board of Selectmen and the citizens of The Town of Middleton, following is the Annual Report of the Inspector of Wires.

The Inspector of Wires is appointed annually by the Board of Selectmen. It is the responsibility of the Inspector of Wires to ensure that all wiring in and on buildings and property within the Town of Middleton is installed in a proper and safe manner. In order to accomplish this, permits are issued to licensed individuals to perform electrical work. Inspections are then made periodically during construction and at the completion of all work to ascertain that the work was performed in accordance with all applicable Codes and Standards.

In addition, the Inspector of Wires responds, when requested by the Middleton Fire Department, to check wiring in buildings damaged by fire or flooding.

FY-98 was a very busy year, due to the increased growth in both residential and commercial development. 260 permits were issued and 733 inspections were made.

I would like to thank the other members of the Inspections Department, the Middleton Fire Department, and the Middleton Electric Light Department for their cooperation in our effort to make certain that electrical installations within the Town of Middleton are proper and safe.

Alfred J. Jones

Inspector of Wires

METROPOLITAN AREA PLANNING COUNCIL

MAPC is the regional planning agency that serves 101 communities in the metropolitan Boston area. It was created by an act of the state legislature in 1963 and has been serving its communities since that time. The Council is composed of one representative from each of the 101 communities appointed by the Chief Elected Officials (CEOs) of each of these cities and towns. In addition there are 21 gubernatorial appointees and 14 agency (such as the DEM, Mass Port and MBTA) appointees on the Council. The 25 member elected Executive Committee meets 11 times a year. The full council meets three times a year. Meetings are held at various localities throughout the region.

In order to serve its communities better, MAPC has organized eight subregions. Each of these groups is composed of representatives from the member communities and a MAPC staff planner. The groups meet on a regular basis to discuss and work on issues of subregional concern.

The Town of Middleton is a member of the North Shore Task Force subregion. Over the past year this group of fifteen communities hosted three workshops on *Conservation Subdivision Design* and *Preserving Open Space*, and presented a workshop led by attorney Mark Bobrowski on *Variances and Special Permits*. The group also invited a legislator from the region to each of its meetings in 1998 to report on important initiatives, and to hear members' input on pending bills.

In addition, MAPC staff participated in a group seeking to advance subdivision design alternatives that benefit towns and builders, while preserving open space and natural resources. One of the MAPC Deputy Directors also met regularly with the North Shore Town Administrators to advance joint service delivery opportunities.

Two projects submitted from the NSTF subregion were approved for eligibility in the Transportation Enhancement Program for FY 98. They were the Unified Signage System for all 15 communities in the subregion, and Salem Trail-Phase II in Salem. MAPC, through a committee process, evaluates and recommends projects for funding, and then works with communities to get them implemented once they have been funded. MAPC also works with communities to advise them on getting their projects put in the Transportation Improvement Program (TIP). Six of the 31 projects included in the FY 98 list come from the NSTF communities. They include: Route 1A in Beverly; Route 127A in Gloucester; Routes 1A/133 (Central St.) in Ipswich; Broadway and Route 127A in Rockport; Swampscott Road in Salem; and Route 1 (Newburyport Turnpike-Ipswich Rd.) in Topsfield.

On the region wide scale the agency is involved with so many programs and issues that it is not possible to mention them all. However, the following list should give some idea of the breadth of activities, responsibilities and challenges the agency has met over the past year. Among the most active initiatives for 1998 were the following four:

Build-Out Analysis

The agency developed and refined its methodology this past year as it worked on build out reports for 12 communities.

Master Plans

The agency worked with a record number of communities on local master plan studies.

Innovative Project Awards

The agency received two new types of major grants from federal organizations; a 'Welfare to Work' grant funded by the US Department of Labor and an Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) grant to look at sustainable taxation policies.

Major Multi-Organization Collaborations

The agency worked closely with other Regional Planning Agencies (RPAs), citizens, legislators, business community members, and non-profits on such projects as Southeastern Massachusetts Vision 2020; The I-495 Technology Corridor Initiative/Campaign for Shared Solutions; and several separate Essex County initiatives that included working with the Essex County Selectmen's Association, Salem State College, and the municipal administrators joint service effort.

During the past year MAPC

- Played major roles in planning, organizing and hosting the national American Planning Association (APA) annual meeting that was held in Boston in April. Over 4,600 planners attended this conference which was last held in the city 17 years ago.
- Worked with others to produce a special video on the importance of trees in the protection of a local watershed. The 28-minute video is called Shedding Water.
- Hosted several free ArcView geographic information system training sessions for town representatives.
- Participated in a collaborative effort with Mass Audubon North Shore and Coastal Zone Management (CZM) North Shore to facilitate conservation subdivision design options.
- Participated on the Advisory Board of the statewide Citizen Planner Training Collaborative that provides a training curriculum for members of local Planning Boards and Zoning Boards of Appeals.
- Completed several school enrollment studies.
- Provided mapping support for the Middlesex Canal commission, a group working to restore parts of the historic canal.
- Developed, as part of a Municipal Incentive Grants (MIGS) program, a video to help communities deal with electric deregulation.
- Created the second annual Council report that incorporated a series of maps in calendar format as part of the document. Each month's map is devoted to a different regional demographic subject.
- Developed a build out analysis for six I-495 communities combined with a report on the infrastructure capacity of present water, sewer and roadway conditions.
- Completed a Nonpoint Source Management Plan for one of the subregions.
- Introduced the practice of writing bi-monthly newsletters for each of the subregions.
- Worked as a facilitator with a local committee that is developing a master plan for a major local open space and drinking water reservoir area.
- Brought national speakers such as Myron Orfield and Jane Holtz Kay to the Council to inform and challenge local thinking on planning issues.
- Continued working with Boston's Cardinal Law on Challenge to Leadership effort—now called Metropolitan Affairs Coalition.
- Strengthened its ties with environmental groups and the National Park Service on its Boston Harbor Island National Recreational Area project.
- Received, processed and distributed to the appropriate communities over 200 Environmental Impact Reports (EIRs) and /or Environmental Notification Forms (ENFs) during the past year. Completed an in depth review, analysis, discussion, and tracking of four EIRs, and wrote comments on another 48.

- Applied for and received an Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) Sustainable Development Grant to look at sustainable tax policy--looking at models across the country of tax sharing and mechanisms for enhancing interlocal cooperative agreements in the context of their political feasibility.
- Received a US Dept of Labor grant for \$4.1 million to work on the 'welfare to work' issue. MAPC set up a collaborative of eight partners-- non-profits, regional employment boards and businesses to address the issue.
- Solicited, reviewed and recommended projects for inclusion in the Transportation Improvement Program (TIP). Worked closely with local members of the Metropolitan Planning Organization (MPO).
- Conducted an inventory and review of all 25 wastewater treatment facilities in the region.
- Updated the Community Profiles data department publication, completed a five-year Overall Economic Development Program (OEDP) report and embarked on a second five-year program.
- Completed and distributed a report on fish processing in the state. The project was funded by Massachusetts Office of Business Development (MOBD).
- Finished designing software for two towns to track their Title 5 permitting programs.
- Provided a workshop for city and town clerks to help prepare them for the upcoming 2000 census. These sessions known as Local Update Census Addresses (LUCA) workshops were held in cooperation with the US Census Bureau.
- Held three metropolitan forums on the Mass Watershed Initiatives program to help bring information about the program to local officials through out the region.
- Coordinated with the SuAsCo Watershed group to develop a watershed community council.
- Collaborated with a multi-agency organization that reviewed and commented on the MWRA's Combined Sewer Overflow (CSO) plan.
- Tracked and supported more than 15 bills in the state legislature. Engaged in an extensive letter-writing campaign in support of the creation of the Office of Geographic and Environmental Information.
- Lobbied hard for the restoration of funding for the Municipal Incentive Grants (MIGs) program.
- Held monthly Legislative committee meetings where members heard speakers from a wide range of governmental agencies and committees discuss relevant legislative initiatives.
- Worked to help communities with their ISTEIA Transportation Enhancement program applications. Organized the committee that acted on the staff recommendations for funding priorities.
- Functioned as staff for Mass Highway System (MHS) Advisory Board that among other efforts reviewed the proposal to develop two air rights parcels over the Mass Turnpike at Mass Ave. in Boston.
- Participated in a wide variety of forums, workshops, seminars, etc. as featured speakers, panel members, facilitators, researchers, hosts, sponsors, conveners, organizers, etc.

- Had three staff members pass the American Institute of Certified Planners (AICP) exam.
- Continued to work with the local communities on the reuse plan for the South Weymouth Naval Air Station.
- Completed a study on the potential impact of the recently accepted reuse plan on the streets and neighborhoods of Rockland and Hingham.
- Helped to complete the Mass Bay Commons publication that was prepared by students at Harvard Graduate School of Design. Distributed the document and promoted the regional open space concept at various meetings and through a variety of organizations' newsletters.
- Continued to respond to requests from communities for information on zoning, land use, environmental regulations, data and planning.
- Worked with Billerica and the Northern Middlesex Council of Governments and three MAPC towns to study the impacts of defense contract reductions and the tools local governments have available to prepare for and mitigate these impacts. The project team convened focus groups and a major forum and published a report.
- Encouraged communities to consider concentrating development around transportation nodes. Created a design guideline booklet illustrating how this could fit into a community setting at a proposed commuter train terminus.
- Worked with municipal administrators to look into the idea of organizing subregional committees for the purpose of shared services.
- Cooperated with Executive Office of Environmental Affairs (EOEA) on informing the public about the new Watershed Basin Team project.



PLANNING BOARD

The Middleton Planning Board has had an active year with numerous small professional buildings establishing themselves in the Town. We had no new subdivisions.

During Fiscal 1998, the Planning Board held 13 meetings in which ANR's were filed (Approval Not Required under subdivision control laws). Of the filings, 2 were withdrawn and 16 were approved. There were two (2) preliminary plans filed for subdivisions, which resulted in one approval. The Board made forty-five recommendations to the Zoning Board of Appeals for the following: Site Plans (14), Variances (10), Special permits (18), and Findings (3). In addition, there were 2 decisions to uphold the Building Inspector.

On October 8, 1997, Costa Prentakis came to our meeting and requested that the Planning Board vote on the growth management-zoning bylaw to be brought to a special meeting. It was defeated and requested to be brought back for the Annual Town Meeting. It was later withdrawn and came forward under the Middleton Growth and Master Plan Study Committee, which passed it at the Annual Town meeting.

In January of 1998, the Richmond Development Group and the Town of Middleton worked together to develop four lots on Mill Street Extension. The area developed was comprised of about twenty acres in the center of the property. The town ended up with open space of 114 acres to be overseen by the Town of Middleton, The New England Foresters and Essex County Greenbelt for joint use and ownership for passive recreation.

Members on the Board were Beverly Popielski, Chairperson, George Dow, Sr. Clerk, Harry Mathews, David Emma and David Leary. During the fiscal year, Timothy Chouinard, Scott Hamilton, and David Emma resigned. In May a new member, Steven Weitzler was elected to the Board. We had a reorganization which made David Leary, Chairperson. George Dow, Sr. remained as clerk.

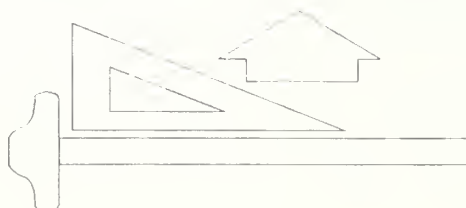
We would like to thank Beverly Popielski for her two terms during which she served with knowledge and dedication. We would like to thank both of our secretaries. We thank Denise Piro, for the efficient manner in which she completes our minutes, and to our senior secretary, Helen Freedman, who does all our scheduling and keeps us on time and in line, we owe our "SPECIAL THANKS".

Once again, we would like to express our appreciation to all the Department Heads for all their ideas and cooperation.

As Chairman for the Board, I would like to take this opportunity to thank all Board members for their support and expertise. It certainly has made my job easier as Chairperson. I would like to give special thanks to Beverly Popielski and George Dow Sr. for enabling me to have a smooth transition.

Respectfully submitted,

David T. Leary, Sr., Chairperson



MIDDLETON POLICE DEPARTMENT

The following is the report and activity statistics of the Middleton Police Department from July 1, 1997 to June 30, 1998.

DEPARTMENT ROSTER

Paul F. Armitage, Chief of Police (effective 9/1/97)
Robert T. Peachey, Sr., Chief of Police, (retired 8/31/97)
James A. DiGianvittorio, Sergeant
John E. Jones, Sergeant (promoted 10/7/97)
Gayle F. Haley, Sergeant (promoted 6/23/98)
Henry A. Bouchard, Patrolman (retired 11/14/97)
Edward M. Couture, Patrolman (deceased 7/10/97)
James J. DeCosta, Patrolman
Robert A. Currier, Patrolman
Robert T. Peachey, Jr., Patrolman
Ronald S. Carpenter, Patrolman
Thomas M. McParland, Patrolman
Raymond L. Saulnier, Patrolman (transferred to reserve status 3/17/98)
David E. Arathuzik, Patrolman (appointed from Reserves 10/7/97)
Steven A. Skory, Patrolman (appointed from Reserves 3/24/98)

RESERVE OFFICERS

James W. Kelley, Patrolman
Leonard J. Ferreira, Patrolman
William J. Corey, Patrolman
Richard A. Mendes, Patrolman
Richard W. Kassiotis, Patrolman
Charles R. Costigan, Patrolman
Raymond L. Saulnier, Patrolman (transferred from full-time 3/17/98)
Brian J. Kelley, Patrolman (appointed 3/17/98)
James A. LeDuc, Patrolman (appointed 3/17/98)
John S. Griffith, Patrolman (appointed 3/17/98)
Gary K. Lacey, Patrolman (appointed 3/17/98)
James D. Bernhard, Patrolman (appointed 3/17/98)

CLERK/DISPATCHERS

Nancy A. McParland
Kris A. Stickney (hired 1/11/97)

SCHOOL CROSSING GUARDS

Manuel F. Correia (resigned 12/23/97)
Marcia A. Swift (hired 8/25/97)

SPECIAL ASSIGNMENTS

Sergeant DiGianvittorio

1. Scheduling Officer
2. Firearms Officer
3. Accreditation Officer
4. Court Activity Supervisor
5. Firearms Licensing Officer

Sergeant Jones

1. Juvenile Officer
2. Facilities Manager
3. Fleet Supervisor

Sergeant Haley

1. DARE Officer
2. Domestic Violence Officer
3. Training Officer
4. Drug Officer
5. Accreditation Officer

Officer DeCosta

1. Court Officer
2. Photo/fingerprint Officer

Officer Currier

1. Safety Officer
2. LEAPS Computer Officer

Officer Peachey

1. Bicycle Officer
2. LEAPS Computer Officer

Officer Carpenter

1. Bicycle Officer

Officer Mendes

1. Jail Liaison Officer

Officer Costigan

1. Computer Consultant

Officer Saulnier

1. Department Mechanic



POLICE INCIDENTS

July 1, 1997 to June 30, 1998

911 Hang Up	86
A & B With Weapon	2
Accident - Fatal	2
Accident - Hit & Run	20
Accident - No Personal Injuries	231
Accident - Pedestrian	5
Accident - Personal Injuries	52
Accident - Vehicle And Bicycle	1
Alarms - Business/Residential	657
Alcohol Violation	6
Ambulance Assistance	244
Animal Complaint	96
Annoying Calls	21
Assault	32
Assist Agency	178
Assist Others	107
Attempt To Serve Process	5
Attempted B & E	5
Attempted Larceny	5
B & E - Building	16
B & E - Dwelling	16
B & E - Motor Vehicle	14
Building Check	16
By Law Violation	1
Carrying Weapon	3
Check Well Being	45
Child Abuse	1
Child In Street	1
Citizen Complaint	191
Citizen Transport	2
Civil Matter	8
Community Policing	53
Confidential Report	3
Delegated Patrol	169
Detective Investigation	1
Disorderly/Disturbance	30

Dispute	67
Disturbed Person	5
Disorderly/Disturbance	16
Domestic, Domestic Abuse	46
Drug Violation (Miscellaneous)	10
Emergency Service	4
Erratic Operation	37
Fire Alarm	131
Forgery/Counterfeiting	2
Fraud/Bad Check	13
General Service	199
Harassment	39
Hate Crime	1
Hazardous Material	1
Held Property	1
Illegal Dumping	20
Injury On Duty	2
Intoxicated Person	41
Juvenile Offense	11
Larceny from Motor Vehicle	1
Larceny/Bicycle	1
Larceny/Theft	132
Liquor Check	1
Littering	1
Lost Item	25
Malicious Destruction	86
Messenger/Mail Delivery	15
Minor Transporting	1
Mischievous Activity	10
Missing Person	14
Missing Property	4

Motor Vehicle – Arrest	47
Motor Vehicle - Complaint	73
Motor Vehicle - Disabled	135
Motor Vehicle – Stop	1236
Motor Vehicle – Theft	8
Noise Complaint	19
Notification	16
Operating Under The Influence Of Liquor	30
Parking Complaint/Violation	8
Possession of Explosives	1
Property Found	32
Protective Custody	41
Prowler	1
Radar	4
Recovered Motor Vehicle	5
Reported Death	5
Repossession	5
Request Officer	10
Road Obstruction	26
Runaway	12
Serve Summons	3
Service 209A	9
Service Request	14
Shoplifting	27
Solicitors	30
Stalking	1
Stolen Property	9
Suicide Or Attempt	3
Suspicious Activity	201
Suspicious Motor Vehicle	50
Suspicious Person	57
Threat	21
Towed Motor Vehicle	211
Traffic Obstruction	7
Trespassing	12
Unfounded Call	21
Unwanted Guest	9
Vandalism Motor Vehicle	6
Violation 209A	4
Warrant Arrest	32
TOTAL POLICE INCIDENTS	4156

ARREST OFFENSE TOTALS	
A & B By Dangerous Weapon	2
Assault With Intent To Commit A Felony	1
Assault	1
Attaching Plates To A Motor Vehicle	3
B & E Day Intent to Commit Misdemeanor	1
B & E Night M/V - Intent To Commit Felony	1
B & E Night – Bldg.- Intent To Commit Felony	2
Buying, Receiving, Etc. Stolen Motor Vehicle	3
Carrying a Firearm w/o License	2
CHINS Warrant Arrest	1
Conspiracy To Violate Controlled Substance Law	1
Defective Equipment	1
Disorderly Person	5
Distribution Of A Class D Substance	1
Disturbing The Peace	3
Domestic A & B	11
Failure To Keep Right With View Obstructed	2
Failure To Stay Within Marked Lanes	17
Failure To Stop For Police Officer While Operating A Motor Vehicle	3
Failure To Stop For Red Light	1
Fugitive From Justice	1
Illegal Possession Of Class A Substance	1
Illegal Possession Of Class B Substance	1
Larceny Of Property, \$250 Or Less	1
Malicious Destruction Of Property Over \$250	4
Minor Transporting And/Or Carrying Alcohol	4

ARREST OFFENSE TOTALS (con't)	
M/V Leaving Scene After Property Damage	2
Motor Vehicle OUI, Liquor	25
Motor Vehicle OUI, Liquor 2 nd Offense	4
Motor Vehicle OUI, Liquor 3 rd Offense	1
Operating After Revocation For Drunk Driving, 3 rd Offense	1
Operating After Revocation, 3 rd Offense	1
Operating An Uninsured Motor Vehicle	3
Operating An Unregistered Motor Vehicle	2
Operating Motor Vehicle After License Revoked	2
Operating Motor Vehicle After Suspension For Drunk Driving	1
Operating Motor Vehicle After Suspension	9
Operating Motor Vehicle Recklessly As To Endanger	2
Operating Motor Vehicle W/O License In Possession	3
Operating Motor Vehicle W/O Registration In Possession	2
Owner Failure To Have Motor Vehicle Inspected	1
Possession Of Class D Substance	3
Possession With Intent To Distribute Within 1000' Of A School	1
Resisting Arrest	2
Revoked Registration	1
Seat Belt Violations	4
Shoplifting	11
Speeding	13
Threats To Commit A Crime	2
Unlicensed Operation Of A Motor Vehicle	6
Violation of Protective Order	3
Warrant Arrest WMS	1
TOTAL OFFENSES WHICH RESULTED IN 116 ARRESTS	180

*<u>MOTOR VEHICLE VIOLATIONS</u>	
* Includes the following:	
283 Warnings	
837 Civil Infractions	
69 Complaint Applications	
47 Arrests	
Chock Block Violation	1
Defective Equipment	87
Endangering	10
Excessive Smoke	4
Failure To Dim Lights	1
Failure To Display Registration Sticker	1
Failure To Keep Right Of Oncoming Vehicle	4
Failure To Notify Registry Of Name change	6
Failure To Remove Keys From Motor Vehicle	2
Failure To Slow For Pedestrian	1
Failure To Slow	1
Failure To Stop For Pedestrian in Crosswalk	2
Failure To Stop For Pedestrian	4
Failure To Stop For Police Officer	5
Failure To Use Care	42
Failure To Use Right Lane	7
Failure To Yield	2
Flares	1
Following Too Closely	6
Forged Sticker	1
Hit & Run Accident	6
Harsh Noise	4
Impeded Operation	5
Improper Plates	21
Inspection Sticker Violation	145
Left Turn Violation	3
Marked Lanes Violation	59
Minor In Possession Of Alcoholic Beverage	2

Motor Vehicle Violations (con't)	
Motor Vehicle Homicide	1
No License In Possession	51
No Registration In Possession	26
Operating Under Influence Of Liquor	30
Passing Violation	49
Red Light/Stop Sign Violation	153
Revoked Operation	12
Revoked Registration	17
Right Of Way Violation	3
School Bus Violation	9
Seat Belt Violation	253
Speeding	610
State Highway Violation	9
Suspended Operation	30
Tinted Glass Violation	11
Two Abreast	5
Uncovered Load	4
Uninsured Operation Of A Motor Vehicle	23
Unlicensed Operation	19
Unregistered Operation Of A Motor Vehicle	44
TOTAL MOTOR VEHICLE VIOLATIONS	1790

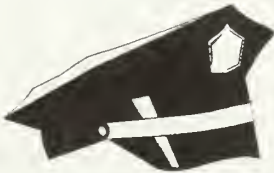
ACCIDENT TOTALS BY LOCATION	
Boston Street	13
Central Street	2
Cross Street	1
East Street	7
Essex Street	4
Fairway Drive East	1
Forest Street	3
Fuller Pond Road	1
Gregory Street	1
Haswell Park Avenue	1
James Avenue	2
Lake Street	8
Liberty Street	5
Locust Street	3
Logbridge Road	1
Lt. J. Cabral Drive	1
Manning Avenue	3
Maple Street	32
Mill Street	4
Natsue Way	1
North Liberty Street	1
North Main Street	58
Old Essex Street	1
Park Avenue	1
Peabody Street	2
River Street	13
School Street	1
Second Avenue	1
Sharpners Pond Road	1
South Main Street	128
Village Road	5
Wennerberg Road	1
TOTAL	307



CHIEF'S REPORT

The beginning of FY97 (July 1997) started with promise and anticipation. Robert Peachey announced his retirement effective August 31, 1997 after serving the Middleton Police Department for thirty-six years, twelve as Chief. On that date, this writer (Paul F. Armitage) was to take over as Chief of Police after serving as Sergeant for eleven years and as a member of the Department for twenty-seven years.

Tragedy struck on July 10, 1997. Officer Edward M. Couture, a twenty-three year veteran of the Department, was assigned to a traffic detail on Boston Street. Just prior to the end of his day, he was struck by a passing motor vehicle. Despite attempts by the Middleton Fire Department EMTs, he was pronounced DOA at Atlanticare Hospital in Lynn. The members of the Police Department and Fire Department along with all the Town employees and residents of the community were devastated. Through all of our tears and sadness, however, we saw a coming together of a community that I had never before witnessed. The Couture household and the Police Department experienced an overwhelming outpouring of support in the form of phone calls, letters, and visits. Throughout Middleton, you could see signs on buildings and marquees expressing our feelings of loss. The day after Ed's death the Board of Selectmen promoted him to the rank of Sergeant.



On July 14 1997, hundreds of visiting police officers joined hundreds of citizens and out of town mourners to say good-bye to Sergeant Edward Couture. Ed received a military funeral along with a "fly-over" of a Massachusetts State Police helicopter. We (Ed's family, the Middleton Police Department, residents of the Town) were left facing the task of moving on. We will never forget Ed Couture. You will see evidence of that fact if you look at the right hand pocket on the uniform shirt of police officers and fire fighters that had the good fortune of serving with Ed Couture. Worn proudly by those officers is a pin designed by Sergeant Haley displaying Sergeant's stripes and the number 5, Ed's badge number.

The weekend of October 18, 19 and 20 was dedicated to Ed Couture. It started with a very successful walkathon around Middleton Pond and a barbecue behind the library. There were various fundraisers throughout the weekend culminating with a golf tournament at the Tara Golf Course on Monday. It was a great opportunity for the "Friends of Ed Couture" to get together, have a lot of fun, and reminisce.

The weekend of May 15 was a more somber occasion. Eight officers of the Department and their families journeyed with Ann, Ashlyn, and Brianna Couture to Washington D.C. We listened to the roll call of fallen officers for 1997 and saw Sergeant Couture's name inscribed at the Law Enforcement Memorial. The following day we attended the memorial services at the Capitol and had the opportunity to participate in grief management sessions.

On June 12 1998, the Middleton Police Department lost another good friend. Chief Edward J. Richardson passed away. Ed had joined the Department as a reserve in 1962 and joined the full-time Department in 1964. In 1967 he was promoted to Sergeant and was appointed Police Chief in 1972. He retired in 1988. Chief Richardson was responsible for arranging for the purchase of the Danvers Police Station and moving it to North Main Street where it now serves as the home of the Middleton Police Department. Ed was a true "townie" as he was born in a house in Middleton not three hundred feet away from the one in which he died. On June 15, 1998 the officers of the Police Department, Ed's family, friends and residents of the community again met at Oakdale Cemetery to say good bye to a departed family member, boss, resident and friend.

Personnel

An additional long time member of the Middleton Police Department retired this year. After thirty years as a Middleton Police Officer, Henry A. Bouchard retired on November 14, 1997. Henry took me under his wing when I joined the department many years ago and has continued to do so as we brought on new people. He is a dear friend, a gentleman, and will be sorely missed.

It was necessary for the Board of Selectmen to replace the two retiring officers, Robert Peachey Sr. and Henry Bouchard. After interviewing interested reserve officers, the Board voted to hire Tom McParland and Raymond Saulnier from the reserve force. In July, Officer McParland was assigned to the Lowell Police Academy for five months and Officer Saulnier was assigned to patrol while waiting for the next academy. On December 19, 1997 Officer McParland graduated from the academy and Officer Saulnier was assigned to the Criminal Justice Training Council Academy in Reading with a February 17, 1998 start date.

Unfortunately, on March 13, 1998 Officer Saulnier resigned from the academy due to

personal reasons and on March 17, 1998 the Board of Selectmen accepted his resignation as a full-time officer and re-appointed him as a reserve officer.

In October the Board appointed Dave Arathuzik from the reserve force to fill the vacancy left by the death of Ed Couture. Dave will attend a twenty-one week training academy starting in June. On March 24 Officer Steven Skory was transferred from the reserve force to the full-time force to fill the vacancy left by Officer Saulnier's resignation. Steve will work patrol until the next academy some time in fiscal year 1999.

The Board gave me permission during the October meeting to advertise for new reserve officers to replace the recent and not-so-recent transfers from the reserves to the full-time department. Since October, the Town Administrator, myself, and the members of the Board had spent numerous hours going over one hundred reserve applications and narrowing the number down to a manageable group for testing and interviews. As a result of those efforts, the Board appointed five new reserves at the March 17 meeting. Appointed were Brian Kelley, James LeDuc, John Griffith, Gary Lacey and James Bernhard. Prior to being issued uniforms three of these officers will be required to complete a total of 120 hours at the Criminal Justice Training Council Academy. Once completed they will have to work training shifts with seasoned officers before being able to work by themselves. I don't expect to be able to make use of them until well into fiscal year 1999.

During the October meeting Jack Jones, a twenty-year veteran of the Middleton Police Department, was promoted to Sergeant to fill the vacancy created by my promotion. On June 23 the Board of Selectmen promoted Gayle Haley, a ten-year veteran of the Middleton Police Department, to the rank of Sergeant. This gives us the advantage of having a supervisor assigned to each shift and allows us to have a supervisor on the day shift four out of every six weekends.

Grants

Thanks to the grant writing abilities of Jim DiGianvittorio and Gayle Haley the department was the recipient of grants totaling \$28,000 this year. As a result of these grants, we were able to provide a number of additional services without having an adverse effect on the budget. These services include: D.A.R.E. (Drug Abuse Resistance Education), the Citizen Police Academy, Specialized Training, Middleton Police Department Web Page, Internet access and enrollment in the Massachusetts Police Accreditation Program. We were also able to schedule extra patrols for the purpose of enforcing seatbelt and speeding laws along with intensive patrols to enforce drunken driving laws. Ongoing training sessions were held in the areas of domestic violence and dating violence. Grant money was instrumental in allowing officers to attend many meetings with judges and victim advocates targeting these types of offenses. Finally, we were able to purchase camera equipment which will allow us to be better prepared when these cases are presented to a court of law.

The Citizen Police Academy has proven to be an excellent means for interaction between police officers and residents in a cordial and somewhat informal setting as opposed to the E911 or motor vehicle stop scenario. Those residents who attend are given the opportunity to learn about the operation of the police department and get to know its officers. In turn, we learn more about what you expect from your department and your impressions of the quality of life in Middleton.

The Massachusetts Police Accreditation Program will help to ensure that our standards are in accordance with other departments in Massachusetts and that they will meet the demands of today's society. The process involves looking at how we do business and how we can improve and standardize policy and procedures on such concerns as pursuits, use of force, evidence custody and citizen complaints. The nature of the process is such that I anticipate it will take at least three years to complete.

Once completed we can stand proud with other departments in Massachusetts that have met the standards. Accreditation will also put us in a more positive position in the event of a lawsuit against the department.

I welcome you to take a look at our web page at www.mdc.net/~mpdpolice/. The web page is designed and maintained by Officer Charles Costigan. We will gladly accept any comments or suggestions. The department can also be contacted by e-mail at mpdpolice@netway.com and I will do my best to respond in as timely a manner as possible. Any emergencies should, of course, be called in to the emergency line and routine calls should be called in to the business line.

Equipment

We had to replace one of our radio "repeaters" this year due to a breakdown and the inability to secure parts for it. Considering that we purchased it used, it gave us good service for close to twenty years. I inherited a transmission problem in the radio system due to the loss of the radio tower at the Essex County Correctional Facility last year. The system has been "peaked" up and is not yet at 100%. I continue to work on this problem along with Sheriff Cousins and the Massachusetts Highway Department with assistance from Senator Bruce Tarr. I received permission from the May 1997 Town Meeting to replace the radio base unit and ten portable radios in FY99. This equipment is eighteen to twenty years old and no longer covered under our service contract due to the inability to find parts for it.

Next year I intend to start a replacement program for our mobile units and will soon need to replace the BAPERN transmitter due to its age. The BAPERN radio system is our second radio, which allows us to communicate with area police departments that are on the same system.



As in the past, Town Meeting has approved money in the police department budget to replace two cruisers. Our present fleet includes three marked cruisers, a marked Ford Explorer and an unmarked cruiser. With funding from the Federal COPS Program and a vote of Town Meeting, we hired an additional officer for the day shift three years ago. No provisions were made then nor have yet been made to purchase a third cruiser for this officer. I intend to do my best to keep the cruiser annual replacement cost down by extending the number of miles we run these cruisers prior to replacement. In addition, the next time the unmarked cruiser is to be replaced I plan to keep it as a court car rather than trading or selling it.

As previously mentioned, a domestic violence grant allowed us to purchase two additional cameras to assist us in domestic violence investigations. These cameras include a Polaroid Macro 5 SLR Camera and a Polaroid Spectra Camera.

Recommendations

We have not yet addressed the problem with the dispatch area at the police station. A few years ago plans were drawn up to place the E911 dispatch center at the police station. At a following Town Meeting, those plans were changed and the center was built at the fire station. I have no intentions of debating the pros or cons of that decision but the end result was that no improvement has been made to a situation that has been worsening since 1983. When the police station was opened in 1983, the dispatch area consisted of a telephone and a radio. In the ensuing fifteen years, additional equipment was added which now consists of an area so congested and cluttered with wires that it borders on being unsafe. The demands of our profession have required us to add telephones and telephone lines, additional computers, monitors, printers and the accompanying lines, cell monitoring equipment and E911 equipment.

I am in the process of working on plans to somewhat rectify the situation and hope to present my suggestions to the next Town Meeting.

Looking ahead to FY2000 I intend to request that we start planning to replace our mobile radio units one by one in order to keep our radio system, the lifeline between the officers on patrol and the dispatcher, in A-1 shape. I will also recommend the replacement of our Pamet computer server installed back in 1994. I also intend to start a program of replacing our computer workstations with new PCs.

Acknowledgements

I stepped into this position on September 1, 1997 with twenty-seven years of police experience, six years of college courses, a desire to do a great job, and loads and loads of apprehension. As I attempt to express my thanks to folks for assisting me this past year, I'm sure that I'll inadvertently overlook some. If you are one of those individuals or organizations, I am heartily sorry for my omission.

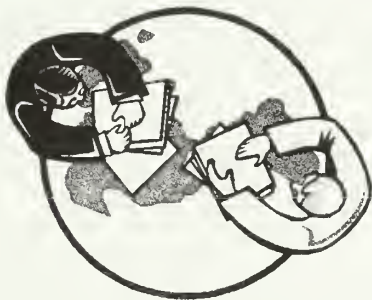
It goes without saying that I would have been lost without my clerk/dispatcher, Nancy McParland. Nancy knows where everything is hidden and I would have been banging my head against the wall without her assistance and counsel. Thank you, Nancy.

This Department consists of twenty-three officers who do their best to function as one unit. If I have succeeded this past year, it is only because they have continued to do a superb job.

The Fire Chief and I go back a lot of years as does my relationship with a number of the firefighters. Public Safety in the Town of Middleton is a team effort and the combination of the Police and Fire Departments makes a great team! We could not have provided the necessary services without the co-operation and assistance of the Highway and Electric Departments, again, all part of the team effort.

The relationship that I have had with all of the department heads has helped to make my job easier. Without the assistance of the Town Administrator Ira Singer and his secretary, Donna Innis, Town Accountant

Bob Murphy, Treasurer Chick Newhall, and Town Clerk Sally George I would have been lost in a forest of paperwork and numbers. Everyone who works at Memorial Hall, Town Garage and the Light Department had a hand in making my life easier and thus able to do the job for which I was hired.



We appreciate the assistance rendered to us by the Massachusetts State Police and thank also the members of the surrounding police departments for their assistance this past year.

Finally, I want to extend my thanks to the Board of Selectmen, for giving me the opportunity to do what I find to be a very fulfilling and rewarding job. Their assistance and guidance as we dealt with the many issues of successfully running the Police Department this past year has not gone unnoticed.

Respectfully submitted,

Paul F. Armitage
Chief of Police

FIREARMS INSTRUCTOR

As Firearms Instructor for the Middleton Police Department, I attended a Firearms Instructor Recertification Program on November 18, 1997 at the Massachusetts Criminal Justice Training Council, which updated the Certified Instructor's as to the latest technology.

This year we have added an extra day at the range for officer practice and familiarization with their weapon. Once again my emphasis on training is to better train in the area of tactical confrontation rather than target practice.

For the first time this department experienced "Night Firing". Statistics show that most officer involved shootings occur in either low light or dim light firing, and in the past most departments did not train in these conditions including us. Officers were astonished as to the difference between light and dim light firing. It opened their eyes to the importance of the training and practicing with their weapons.

On November 18, 1997 all members of the department had a four-hour In-Service Training class. Officers once again demonstrated safe weapon handling, familiarity with the weapon, and the ability to disassemble, clean, inspect and reassemble their pistol.

On January 7, 1998 officers successfully completed the range portion of the training program. Each officer scored 80% or better.

On May 5, 1998 I trained the five new reserve officers and qualified each at the range.

Again this year the Middleton Police Department would like to thank the Danvers Fish and Game Club for their cooperation and support for the use of the range during our qualifications.

HOME STORAGE OF FIREARMS

Family Considerations:

If you have a family, your responsibility does not end with the proper storage of firearms. It is necessary to educate family members regarding the responsibility of having firearms in the house and the safety considerations involved. In this case, education should attempt to place the proper perspective for your spouse and children. The two extremes to be avoided are:

1. Do not make the firearm into a "Forbidden Fruit".
2. Do not treat it so lightly that a child will consider it a toy to play with.

The family should understand that it is a firearm with no innate quality of good or evil. Depending on how it is used it can defend life or take it.

Children over the age of four should be helped to understand that the real firearm is unlike the gun used to shoot each other in the cartoon. Cartoons don't get hurt or die. When real people are shot with real guns they are seriously injured or killed.

If your child has experienced death through the loss of a relative or pet, you might use this as an example. This may be traumatic to the child and you. However, this is a small price to pay for the desired result-SAFETY.

Experiences suggest that if one looks ahead and takes the time to plan for the unexpected, if the family members are educated about firearms and the home safety rules are agreed upon, then a moment of carelessness may not result in tragedy.

OCAT INSTRUCTOR

Oleo Resin Capsicum (O.C. Instructor)

Each Officer was again recertified on April 23, 1997 in the use of O.C. Spray. O.C. is classified as an inflammatory agent, and is used as a tool by the police for the protection of both the public and the officer. Each officer must pass a test and receive training as to the effects and treatment of O.C. Each officer in the Middleton Police Department has, at one time or another, been exposed to the spray during training and has additionally been responsible for decontaminating and treatment.

Respectfully submitted,

Sgt. James A. DiGianvittorio

JUVENILE OFFICER

As the department's Juvenile Officer I have continued to work with our teenagers and parents who asked for my assistance.

On a monthly basis, the Juvenile Officers of the Tri-Town area and officials of the Masconomet Regional School District meet to discuss our mutual problems. The guest community, at their facility or that of a participating organization holds these meetings on a rotating basis.

I have also attended meetings hosted by the Tri-Town Council, as well as, seminars given by the District Attorney's Office on Teenage Violence and Abuse, Community Collaborative Initiative, Teenage Crime and Violence and Violence Prevention. This collaborative consists of representatives from the District Attorney's Office, Court Probation, and Masconomet teaching staff and the guidance department. There are also representatives from the Department of Social Services, Department of Youth Services, Department of Mental Health and surrounding Police Departments.

The goal of these meetings is to allow us the opportunity for early intervention and prevention efforts. We consult on violence prevention initiatives and strategies. These meetings provide a valuable resource by cutting down on the duplication of efforts, and facilitating the sharing of ideas and strategies to assist individuals who may be headed to "high risk" behavior, be it drugs, alcohol, abuse, or crime.



The use of alcoholic beverages and drugs by teenagers are problems that concern us. Many feel that if they have to make a choice between alcohol and drugs, that alcohol is the lesser of two evils. However, both are dangerous to the user! If you know or hear of anyone who is in need of help, please do not hesitate to contact the Police Department. All calls will be held strictly confidential. Our goal is to maintain a safe and healthy environment for our town.

Respectfully submitted,

Sgt. John Jones

D.A.R.E.

D.A.R.E. Officer

The Middleton Police Department was pleased to receive a grant award of \$6,000.00 from the Executive Office of Public Safety. The purpose of the award was to supplement our existing D.A.R.E. program. Funds for the grant are distributed from the tobacco tax. The grant award made it possible for our D.A.R.E. Officer to spend one day per week in the elementary school in direct contact with the children of this community.

During the 1997/98 school year, ninety-four sixth grade students took part in the core curriculum of the D.A.R.E. program. Students spent one class each week learning the truth about the dangers of alcohol, tobacco and drug misuse. Not only were students given the facts about substance misuse but they were also taught techniques to use in order to resist peer pressure to experiment with them.

Each student was given a workbook covering the curriculum of the D.A.R.E. program. These students were able to personalize their books with information and ideas discussed each week. At the conclusion of the program the books were given to the students to keep as a reference guide. Small incentive items were also provided to students reinforcing their commitment to the program and providing a fun atmosphere. Some lessons provided students with a stage where they presented skits. These skits were written, directed, performed and critiqued by the students. These lessons were among the students' favorites and allowed them an opportunity to confront realistic situations in a safe environment. Other interactive activities included weekly discussions of current and pertinent news items, and making personal license plates and mobiles that were hung in each classroom.

The program culminated with an essay contest. Each student was required to write a one page essay expressing what they had learned from the program. The top three essayists were awarded a medal and a fifty-dollar savings bond. The Family Bank and the Danvers Savings Banks generously donated the savings bonds. Erika Mitchell wrote the top essay, followed in second place by Ashlyn Couture and in third place by Brad Ferry. Erika and Ashlyn were chosen to represent Middleton at the State D.A.R.E. Graduation held at the Kennedy Library in June. The two joined students from around Massachusetts who were recognized for their commitment to remain drug and violence free. They each received a special certificate and tee shirt to commemorate the event.

During an all school assembly, Garry Krinsky treated students to a performance. Garry's act included an amazing demonstration of juggling and balancing with hidden positive messages to the students about choices. Following the performance, each student who successfully completed the D.A.R.E. program received a certificate acknowledging their commitment to stay drug free and a tee shirt specially designed to show the commitment of the Middleton Police Department to our students. Police Chief Paul F. Armitage and Deputy Superintendent Dr. Creeden were on hand to present the certificates.



The highlight of the program was a daylong trip to the Browne Center at the University of New Hampshire where students took part in an adventure-based program. Students had the option to challenge themselves by choice to climb trees, walk on wires 20-30 feet in the air and work together as a team to overcome obstacles presented to them by staff members.

The sixth grade teachers overcame a few obstacles of their own and bravely challenged themselves to climb a tree and belay students on safety lines. Officer Haley along with Sgt. DiGianvittorio, Officer Currier and Officer Kelley were also on hand to work the ropes to belay students. This enabled students to challenge themselves with a sense of security. It also generated a trust between the students and Police that hopefully will extend beyond this program. It was an exciting and valuable way to conclude the program.

Officer Haley would like to thank the sixth grade teachers and Mrs. Fitzpatrick for their participation and cooperation opening the school and classrooms to the D.A.R.E. program. She would also like to thank fellow officers from the Middleton Police Department for their participation in various events throughout the year. A special thanks to Police Chief Paul F. Armitage without whose commitment to the youth of Middleton this program would not continue.

DOMESTIC VIOLENCE OFFICER



During the past year the Middleton Police Department adopted new policies and procedures for dealing with domestic violence calls. The new policies and procedures are in accordance with Massachusetts General Law and the Massachusetts Executive Office of Public Safety and will ensure the effectiveness of police intervention. Incidents of domestic violence continue to be the most difficult and dangerous calls requiring police response.

Along with the new policies and procedures, training has been provided in an effort to better equip officers with the knowledge and techniques necessary for a successful outcome in these types of incidents.

In order to insure the victims' safety it is crucial that responding officers understand the dynamics of domestic violence. The victims often turn on the responding officers for fear of retaliation by the perpetrator.

Many incidents of domestic violence are not carried forward to prosecution. Even the most obvious and brutal cases of violence resulting in injuries may end up with prosecution being stifled. Often victims are reluctant to cooperate with police and refuse to testify in court. In a collaborative effort to prosecute the most severe cases of domestic violence, the District Attorney's Office, victim advocates, and police and court personnel are utilizing methods other than the victims testimony to litigate these matters.

Changes in the laws regarding hearsay evidence in domestic cases, the use of photographs for documentation of injuries, 911 tape recordings and improved police training are just a few of the means utilized for successful prosecution. With funds made available from the Violence Against Women Grant in the amount of \$10,000.00, the department was able to purchase two Polaroid instant cameras, a digital camera, film and provided additional hours of training to all personnel. The grant award also allowed the department to provide victims of domestic violence with one on one counseling with counselors from H.A.W.C. (Help for Abused Women and their Children).

Participating in grant funding is one way the Middleton Police Department is able to provide the citizens of Middleton with service and protection in domestic violence cases. Successful intervention in domestic incidents is a victory not only for the victims but also for the community as a whole. Children who are often the silent victims of domestic violence must be protected. Perpetrators must get the message that we as a society can not and will not tolerate violence.

Training Officer

In an effort to better serve the community, the Middleton Police Department has taken a proactive approach to the training of its officers. Every officer, both full-time and reserve, are trained and certified annually in First Responders and CPR. In addition, every officer must qualify annually in the proper use of their duty issued weapon and OC spray.



Full-time officers attended a three-day training session presented by the Massachusetts Criminal Justice Training Council held at Camp Curtis Guild in Reading, MA. Over the course of the three days officers received training in recent changes in the Massachusetts General Laws and are instructed in Officer's Safety.

As a recipient of a The Violence Against Women Grant Award through the Massachusetts Executive Office of Public Safety in the amount of \$10,000.00, the department was able to purchase equipment as well as send several officers for specialized training. The training provided officers with updates in the Violence Prevention Acts, probate court orders, and report writing and investigation techniques.

Along with training provided outside the Department, several in-service training classes were held. One class was instructed by Doctors Green and Copeland. The doctors are local Chiropractors who assisted Officers with correct driving posture to prevent back problems as well as exercise advice for good musculoskeletal health.

Other classes consisted of instruction on the use of two new cameras purchased with funds from the Violence Against Women Grant. The cameras are provided through the Polaroid Company specifically for law enforcement use. Photographs are an invaluable tool in the successful prosecution of domestic violence cases; therefore, it is imperative for all officers to be accurate in the camera's use.

Officers also received instruction for properly taking a person's fingerprints. New policy and procedures adopted by this department and future grant awards require the maintaining of fingerprint records of those arrested for various crimes.



The Middleton Police Department has worked collaboratively with the Essex County District Attorney's Office; the Attorney General's Office, and the Massachusetts Criminal Justice Training Council to take advantage of various training seminars. Several officers have attended seminars offered throughout the year covering a variety of topics. Attendance at these seminars not only allows each officer to maintain a high level of knowledge on the topic materials, but also to exchange information and ideas with others in law enforcement.

It is the commitment of the Middleton Police Department to continue to maintain a proactive training program of all of its officers. I would like to take this opportunity to thank all officers for their dedication to their profession.

Respectfully submitted,

Sgt. Gayle Haley

SAFETY OFFICER

During the past seven months, I have been getting up to speed with the help of the Massachusetts Safety Officers League. I was newly assigned as the Safety Officer this year. The responsibility of the Safety Officer in Middleton is to promote safety issues throughout the community and provide for safety during community events.

I have visited with each grade level at our elementary schools. With lower grade levels and day care centers, McGruff the Crime Dog accompanies me. During these visits I discuss safety issues with kids and distribute pamphlets regarding 911 usage, DARE, etc. In addition to learning safety, I find these visits promote a positive relationship between law enforcement and our local youth. I have also visited with local senior centers where safety issues of specific concern to seniors are discussed.

I was responsible for providing safety for town events such as our first Horribles Parade held this summer. I have investigated issues regarding traffic safety brought to the attention of the police department by local citizens and made recommendations for corrective measures.

Respectfully submitted,

Patrolman Robert A. Currier

Computer Consultant

The current computer system that the Middleton Police Department uses to support its records database is a Digital VAX/VMS 3000 Workstation.

This workstation runs a software application called PoliceServer, from Pamet Incorporated. This system has been in use for 4.5 years. The system uses a mainframe type environment with numerous dumb terminals connected throughout the building.

The majority of the day-to-day information inputted into the system consists of:

- Incidents
- Alarms
- Arrests
- Traffic violations
- Traffic accidents

All personnel of the Middleton Police Department use this system for their day-to-day reporting.

Last year there were 4,156 incidents, 1,790 traffic violations, numerous alarms, arrests and other information recorded. The Police Department has been successful in using this information to generate statistics in applying for Community Policing, Operating Under the Influence of Alcohol (OUI), Seatbelt Violations, Domestic Abuse and a variety of other grants. We have also been able to use information from the database to supply town and state agencies with statistics for highway improvements and traffic control throughout the Town.

The cost of the system is small compared to the money the Town has received through grants generated from the information provided by PoliceServer.

The Middleton Police Department acquired 2 PCs during the year. These have basically been used as stand-alone desktop devices, only because the current VAX/VMS system does not support a server environment.

During the current year the Middleton Police Department will be focusing on plans to migrate and update their current hardware and software into a PC/Server environment. This will allow all PCs and the Pamet operating system, (with the updated hardware and software from Pamet) to work in a network environment sharing resources, such as printers and disks.

Pamet is now fully focused on developing software strictly for the PC environment. This application, PoliceServer NT, will run strictly on a PC. Even though Pamet will still support PoliceServer for the VAX/VMS operating system, it should be noted that this would only be maintenance support. Any new features for PoliceServer will only be developed and included for the NT PC version. It is important for the Middleton Police Department to keep current with the new software and hardware technologies in order to keep its database current and useful.

Respectfully submitted,

Patrolman Charles R. Costigan



The Middleton Recreation Department has sponsored many activities throughout the year. Our popular **Summer Park Program** was directed under the leadership of Maureen Mortalo, with over 250 children registered for the daily activities and fun. The program ran for six weeks from 8:30 - 12:30 during the summer vacation.



Our trip to **Water Country** in July was an exciting day with 74 people attending. There was perfect weather and plenty of water for all!

During the past year we added another successful program. Called the **Tootsie Roller Gymnastics Program**, it was offered to children up to the age of six (6). The children met weekly in the Howe-Manning Gym, with 20 participants learning to roll and tumble. It was a lot of fun, and the program is expected to expand in the years to come.

The **Annual Town Picnic** was the second Tuesday in August. We headed up to Canobie Lake Park in Salem, NH. Again, the weather was on our side. We had 82 adults and 205 children, who thoroughly enjoy rides and activities.



Every year we have a **Summer Swim Program** for children from pre-school to 12 years of age. The Learn to Swim Program ran for eight weeks at the Danvers Y.M.C.A., with over 120 children participating and being able to take advantage of the free swim program offered in the afternoons.

Another event in which the Recreation Department participates is the famous **Pumpkin Festival**. It is traditionally held the weekend before Halloween.



The Friday night before the Pumpkin Festival, the Recreation Department assisted with the pumpkin carving (held in the Fuller-Meadow cafeteria). We handed out safe carving tools and helped to supervise the room full of busily carving families. Goodie bags were given to the participants when their masterpieces were completed. Over 300 pumpkins were carved, and what a mess there was! This was also the first year the Recreation Department participated on Saturday, by providing a **Moon Walk** for the children to enjoy after a Jack-O-Lantern Jog.

Jolly Santa Claus was a welcome sight at our **Annual Christmas Party** in December. Over 250 children enjoyed pizza and ice-cream while being entertained by Perky the Clown. The arrival of Santa was eagerly anticipated. He listened to the Christmas wishes of the children and distributed gifts to one and all!



The February vacation brought many people to the Roller Palace in Beverly, MA. More than 143 adults and children enjoyed the fun when they attended the **Annual Roller Skating Party**.



As in the summer, the Recreation Department was trying to add more events to the schedule. This past year, we were lucky enough to have the backing of some very generous sponsors. This made it possible for 175 residents of Middleton

to attend a **Red Sox Game** in June. The rain stopped long enough to get the game in without any delays. We would like to express sincere thanks for their generosity to *A.L. Bouchard Excavating, Richardson's Dairy, Family Bank, and the Middleton Boosters.*

This year we would like to welcome two newly appointed members to the board. They are Jan Thwing, who brings with her many years of experience in the recreation field, and Lou Fedullo, who is well known to all in town for all his time that he gives to our children.

In closing, the Recreation Department members are always looking for new and wonderful ideas. Please feel free to contact any board member with your suggestions or comments. We look forward to another successful year, with many new events to be added.

Recreation Department Members

Gary R. L'Abbe, Chairman
Priscilla Neal, Secretary
Michele Nowack, Treasurer
Jan Thwing
Lou Fedullo



SOLID WASTE and RECYCLING C O M M I T T E E

The Recycling Committee and the Solid Waste Planning Committee have now been consolidated into one committee. This committee will work with the Department of Public Works, the Finance Committee and the Board of Health to continue the smooth, cost effective operation of all Middleton's waste disposal and recycling activities and to do whatever it can to encourage source reduction and recycling.

In FY98, 1756 tons of trash from Middleton were incinerated at the Ogden Martin Waste to Energy Plant in Haverhill, MA. In addition, 212 tons of construction and demolition materials were disposed of through monthly special collections. The growing volume of C&D, as well as the escalating costs of disposing of it, could present the Town of Middleton with some problems in the future. The Committee reminds residents that this service is only for the use of residents doing work on their own homes.

In FY98, Middleton recycled 434.75 tons of primary recyclables. This is a 10% increase over FY97. Materials recycled include:

Mixed Paper	258	tons
Glass	31	tons
Tin & Aluminum Cans	13.75	tons
Scrap metal	125	tons
Plastic	7	tons

As of the end of FY98, 172 residents had purchased low cost compost bins through a grant administered by Essex County. Unfortunately, the demise of Essex County has meant the end of this program.

Middleton continues to do an admirable job of handling difficult-to-manage materials. Approximately 1800 gallons of used motor oil were collected and used to heat the DPW garage. Forty-two Middleton residents took advantage of the 11th annual Household Hazardous Waste Collection in November of 1997 and 191 tires were collected at the Transfer Station.

Though changing recycling markets have meant that recycling is no longer bringing money into Town coffers, the 256 tons of paper alone that was diverted from our rubbish means a savings of about \$12,800 in tipping fees.

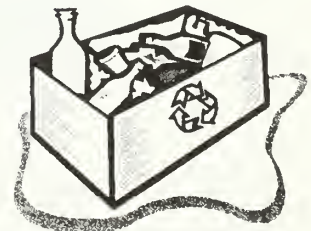
The high point of this past year for the committee has been the construction of our new spacious take it or leave it shed, now known as the Stop & Swap. Students at the North Shore Vocational School constructed this building for us at minimum cost to the Town. We thank them for their efforts. A trip to the Stop & Swap has become a standard part of some residents weekend errands.

Remember, residents who do not use the landfill can still use the recycling center by obtaining a "recycling only" sticker at the Treasurer's Office. For more complete information about recycling in Middleton, residents can now call the E-Call hotline at 1-800-800-6881. Callers will be asked to enter their zip code on a touch tone phone. They will then hear a recording of up-to-date information about recycling, including dates of Household Hazardous Waste Events when they are available. This service to Town residents is sponsored by the Topsfield/Boxford/Middleton League of Women Voters.

Respectfully Submitted,

Middleton Solid Waste
and Recycling Committee

Mary Jane Morrin, Chairman
Donna Bambury
Glenn Bambury
Leo Cormier
Nancy Jones
Robert Kelley
Charles Newhall
Robert Porteous
Dennis Roy
Ira S. Singer





To the Citizens of Boxford, Middleton and Topsfield:

Last year the Masconomet School Committee created a **Vision Statement** to guide its efforts in developing programs and providing services for our students. The vision for Masconomet was used this year in budget development and setting program goals.

The statement reads:

Masconomet Regional School District provides a challenging educational environment for all students that:

- Maximizes opportunities for intellectual and personal growth
- Promotes learning as a life-long pursuit, and
- Encourages students to become contributing community members.

With the vision in place, the administration moved curriculum issues to the forefront of our agenda. The process works to focus our efforts in finding ways to meet our students' educational needs. We work hard to do this in a cost-effective way.

While Masconomet faces challenges of increasing enrollments, meeting education reform mandates, tight budgets, and crowded facilities, the students and faculty continue to excel. **Our students scored in the top 10% of schools statewide in MCAS tests. Our athletic program won the Dalton Award for its second-place finish in Massachusetts.**

Art students were honored with many awards in local, state and national exhibitions. Student science projects earned recognition in the regional and state Science Fairs. The music department was selected from applicants nation-wide to perform in Disney World. Our drama groups provide entertainment for the community and enrichment for students.

Our towns provide opportunities to achieve and succeed and the Masconomet community rises to the challenge.

The design phase of the Masconomet Building Project involved the entire Masconomet community during the past year. School Committee members, teachers, department heads and administrators focused on educational program requirements.

Community members with extraordinary professional credentials lent their expertise as members of the Masconomet Building Committee. They worked along side the architects to design an expanded and renovated facility that will meet student and community needs for many years to come. It will be a place of community pride.

Masconomet is your school. School Committee members are your representatives. Help us to serve you better by sharing your concerns and your kudos with the administration or one of us.

Respectfully submitted,

Nancy Vose, Chair
Masconomet Regional School District

To The Citizens of Boxford, Middleton, and Topsfield:

It is a pleasure to have the opportunity to present to you each year a report on the Masconomet Regional School District. The performance of Masconomet's students and faculty is outstanding in academics, athletics, and extra-curricular activities. Excellence has become a hallmark and a tradition at Masconomet. Nevertheless, we do not rest on the strength of our past accomplishments. We are facing new challenges as the student population grows, and as we face increasing performance demands from state testing. In response to these challenges, we have, for example, increased the amount of instructional time for students, and reorganized grades 7 and 8 into a middle school approach that better suits the developmental needs of young adolescents. We are also working closely with

the elementary schools on an organized effort to coordinate curriculum K-12.

We welcome these challenges as opportunities to design and implement continually improving educational programs. We seek your continuing support as we face these new challenges. Please visit us at our website at: www.Masconomet.org, or call me or either Principal to arrange a visit to our schools. We value your interest and support, and welcome your comments and suggestions.

Respectfully,

Kathleen M. Lynch, Ph.D.
Superintendent of Schools

MIDDLE/JUNIOR HIGH SCHOOL

Both in name and in function, we continue this year to move from a Junior High School to a Middle School. In fact, when you call us, we answer "Masconomet Middle School!". For years, we have embraced many of the tenets of middle level education, including teaming and intramural sports. As we plan for our move into our new school, we look towards it being a true middle school. Let us explain the steps that we have taken to reach that goal.

Currently, our school enrollment is about 660 students. These students are divided into six separate teams, each taught by a core of four academic teachers (English, Mathematics, Social Studies and Science). Courses in World Language, Reading, Art, Music, Health, Consumer and Family Living, Technical Education and Physical Education complete each student's schedule. With very few exceptions, students are engaged in classroom activities every period of the day. The Administration consists of the Principal and the Assistant to the Principal for Discipline. They are assisted by academic support from the district department heads, and through office support from two secretaries.

Our academic teams continue to focus on the individual cognitive and affective needs of their students by; identifying specific learning styles for each student; developing coordinated curriculum within the team; and communicating with parents, specialty teachers and guidance counselors. The team approach has provided a very successful transition between the sending elementary schools, and our subject-centered high school. Extra-curricular activities include Student Council, Math Team, Future Problem Solvers, Chefs' Club and Odyssey of the Mind - all of which are enthusiastically enjoyed by our students.

This year, with the assistance of staff from the New England League of Middle Schools (NELMS), we have taken several significant steps towards our final middle level destination. First, we completed a year-long study and self-evaluation of our school as it now exists. The study concluded with a visit from a NELMS assessment committee. That committee, consisting of middle level education practitioners from throughout New England, stayed with us for three days,

interviewed hundreds of teachers, students and parents, and followed up their visit with a comprehensive, 31 page assessment report. In the fall, we created an Assessment Steering Committee, which will lead the faculty in analyzing the report and implementing the recommendations of the NELMS Report.

Finally, this year we joined a consortium of seven middle level schools throughout New England, all of which are involved with systemic change. This three-year involvement will allow us to gauge our progress towards our goal of becoming a true middle school.

The exciting efforts that are described above share an equal demand on our staff with the Curriculum Frameworks and the MCAS (Massachusetts Comprehensive Assessment System) tests. We have received, for the first time, student results from tests given to eighth

graders last May in English, Mathematics and Science and Technology. Based on a study of those results, and in cooperation with the elementary schools as well as the high school, we will be adjusting our curriculum and designing remedial materials to meet the needs of all our students.

This year has been very challenging to our students and faculty. We are housed in a crowded, tired building, filled to capacity with bright and eager students. We have begun plans for our new building, involved the faculty in a fundamental educational change in direction, and continued to address the changes required by the Education Reform Act. We are fortunate to have a faculty, a student body, and their supportive parents that continue to make this school a great place in which to learn.

SENIOR HIGH SCHOOL

The 1998-99 school year began with the second year of a successful orientation program for freshmen. The team of teachers who work with the ninth grade organized a full day Freshman Orientation program for the first day of school. This year, the entire program was designed and run by the Masco teachers, without the aide of a consultant. Again, it was a tremendous success. The freshman class has made an excellent transition to the high school. Also, a new team of teachers has been formed to focus on the needs of seniors transitioning out of high school. The teachers continue to work on expanding options for seniors during the year and the fourth quarter.

This year, a hybrid, long block schedule was continued in the ninth grade and expanded to the tenth grade. This is the first year that mathematics has been taught in a long block in grade nine. This new schedule will be monitored for effectiveness over the next few years. The new schedule did allow the school to move closer to compliance with the state **Time on Learning regulations**. However, the school is still not in full compliance due to cuts in the budget that required a deletion of many sections of high school classes. Currently all ninth graders are enrolled in long block classes

that meet for ninety-eight minutes each in English, social studies, science, math, and world language. The tenth graders are enrolled in long block classes in English, social studies, science, and world language. All of the block classes meet on an every other day basis. The remainder of the classes meets for the traditional forty-seven minutes. The current plan is to have all students fully programmed into classes, without regular study halls, as soon as possible. This will bring the high school into full compliance with the Education Reform Act's Time On Learning regulations. It will also require a strong financial commitment from the Tri-Town communities.

The first administration of the MCAS tests in English, science and technology, and mathematics was held in May 1998. The tenth grade did respectably on the exam, but the test showed some areas of weakness. The teachers and department heads have continued working on bringing our curriculum in line with the state Curriculum Frameworks. We have also formed K-12 Curriculum Action Teams to do a thorough analysis of the test results. This will undoubtedly result in additional changes in curriculum and instruction. The MCAS tests will be

administered again in English/Language Arts, science/technology, mathematics, and social studies this year. Successful completion of these tests will be required for graduation beginning with the Class of 2003.

A group of teachers, parents, and students met this year to recommend changes in Masconomet graduation requirements. The School Committee approved a new set of graduation requirements in December, as a result of the group's work. Beginning with the class of 2003, students will be required to take an additional year of science, two years of world language, and complete forty hours of community service. These are in addition to the requirements already in place. They will be required to take fewer semesters of physical education and will have alternate ways of meeting the PE requirement. The total number of credits required for a Masconomet diploma will increase from 90 to 110 credits.

With all these changes, there has been a great deal of emphasis on professional development for teachers in the areas of technology, assessment, and teaching methodology. The district continues to provide opportunities for learning in these areas both in the school and at outside workshops and conferences. Many staff members have taken advantage of these opportunities. This has enabled the high school to increase opportunities for students to use new technology, has assisted the teachers in exploring alternate ways of assessing learning, and has brought new teaching methodologies into long block and regular classes. The staff has been extremely busy and productive. We are pleased with the increasing integration of technology into our instructional program, but we need additional resources and training to fully expand our technology and make it accessible to all students and teachers. The plans for the new high school building will make accessibility to technology a reality for both students and staff.

The Class of 1998 was successful academically. The average SAT score for the class was 545 in the verbal area and 555 in mathematics. Ninety – six percent of the class was tested and 33% scored over 600 in verbal and 40% scored over 600 in mathematics. Seventy-three percent of the class scored above 500 on the verbal and 78% scored

above 500 on the mathematics portion of the test. These scores are significantly above the state and national averages and are above those of the previous class.

Eighty – three percent of the class went on to four-year colleges and 7% went on to other post-secondary schooling. The Class of 1998 had four commended students in the National Merit Scholarship Program, one semi – finalist, and one finalist. A fine job by a wonderful group of seniors.

The student body continued to be very active in sports and other extracurricular activities. Many of our athletic teams participated in post-season tournament play. The school won the coveted Dalton Award for the second time in recent history, based on last year's athletic record. The Thespians are having another tremendous year, and produced A Chorus Line. The drama group also performed the play, Death Trap, in January and entered the State Drama Festival with the well-known play The Crucible in the spring. Our students continue to show a strong interest in social responsibility and are forming clubs to support and improve the social environment of the school.

The students are also showing an increasing interest in community service projects. This year they participated in a "Teddy Bear" drive and a drive to gather children's books for a Boston hospital. Hundreds of students responded to the request for donations. In addition, the students and staff raised over \$1,300 and donated it to the food pantry in Lynn, My Brother's Table, again this year. Last year's donation was surpassed by over \$300.

Groups of students also organized "clean up" days and spruced up the campus after school. The tradition of the St. Patrick's Day Dinner for the elderly continued this year, and the Student Council held a holiday party for the children and grandchildren of Masco staff members. The junior class sponsored a "Bingo Night" for the senior citizens and the music department sponsored an afternoon holiday concert for seniors, as well. A group of 24 Masco students participated in a City Year project on a Saturday that involved sprucing up a Boston neighborhood. Many smaller service projects also go on each

month through the Jefferson Forum and National Honor Society. Community service is becoming an important focus of the high school, and it was recently added as a graduation requirement for all students beginning with the Class of 2003.

The Symphonic Band and Jazz Band continued to present outstanding evenings of music for the community. The Singers, Chorale, and the Jazz Choir continue to grow and provide beautiful music for the Masconomet community. The recently formed barbershop quartet, the Chieftones, has been a popular group this year. They placed third in a new North Shore competition for high school students. Our musical groups are requested to

perform at many local events outside the school, also. Their outstanding reputation serves them and the school well. It appears that these programs will continue to expand next year as our population continues to grow.

One of the other challenges we face over the next few years is in providing adequate space for the programs we need for the expanding population. The high school staff has been working with the architectural design firm hired by the School Committee to design the new high school. This is an exciting time for all areas of the high school as the need for programs and facilities grows. Masconomet continues to be a vibrant, expanding place to learn.

MASCONOMET REGIONAL SCHOOL COMMITTEE

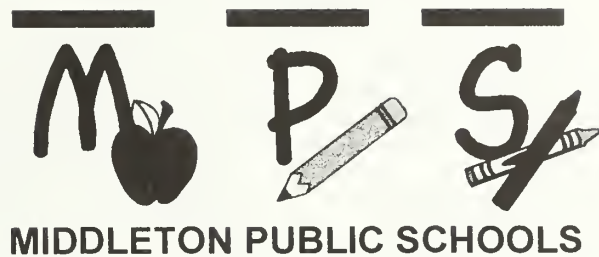
<u>Name</u>	<u>Town</u>	<u>Term Expires</u>	<u>Tel. No.</u>
Nancy Vose, Chair	Boxford	1999	887-5168
David Bassett	Boxford	1999	887-8743
Barry DeNofrio	Boxford	2000	887-9447
Nancy Fenton	Topsfield	1999	887-9817
Judy Gallerie	Middleton	2000	777-7563
Edward Gronbeck	Middleton	2000	777-5422
Pamela Hieber	Topsfield	2001	887-8653
Robert Holloway	Topsfield	1999	887-2373
Kurt Mann	Middleton	2000	750-4837
Marci Miller	Boxford	2000	887-7061
Emily Nechtem	Topsfield	2000	887-3988
Susan Richardson, Vice Chair	Middleton	2001	774-2126
Barbara Was	Boxford	2001	887-5660

SUBCOMMITTEE AND SPECIAL ASSIGNMENTS

- | | | | |
|-------------------------------|---|------------------------------|---|
| • Cost-effectiveness | S. Richardson, Chair
(Sub-committee- of-the-whole) | • Capital Projects | B. Was, Chair
J. Gallerie
P. Hieber |
| • Personnel | R. Holloway, Chair
K. Mann
M. Miller
E. Gronbeck
L. Nechtem | • Finance Committee Liaisons | B. DeNofrio, Boxford
E. Gronbeck, Middleton
R. Holloway, Topsfield
L. Nechtem, Topsfield |
| • Curriculum Subcommittee | J. Gallerie
M. Miller
L. Nechtem
N. Vose | • Policy | S. Richardson, Chair
D. Bassett
E. Gronbeck
J. Gallerie |
| • Communications Subcommittee | M. Miller, Chair
P. Hieber
K. Mann
N. Vose
B. Was | • Auditing Subcommittee | G. Simmons
B. Was
F. Hurd
J. Gallerie
L. Nechtem |
| • Budget Process Subcommittee | S. Richardson, Chair
B. DeNofrio | • Evaluation Subcommittee | B. DeNofrio, Chair |

<u>Name</u>	<u>Department</u>	<u>Highest Degree</u>	<u>College Received From</u>
Kathleen M. Lynch	Superintendent	Doctorate	University of Pennsylvania
Pamela Culver	S.H. Principal	Master's	Suny at Albany
Leonard Broughton	J.H. Principal	Master's	Boston University
Michael H. Kistler	Special Needs Director	CAGS	Northeastern University
Donald Doliber	Assistant Principal	Master's	Univ of Massachusetts

<u>Name</u>	<u>Department</u>	<u>Highest Degree</u>	<u>College Received From</u>
Joseph Casey	Physical Education	Master's	Boston State College
Leonard Emmons	Guidance	Doctorate	University of Lowell
Jeanne Jacobs	World Languages	Master's	New York University
Charles Kellogg	Science	Doctorate	Univ. of Massachusetts
Roger Lauzon	Business Education	Master's	Salem State College
Richard Meegan	Social Studies	Master's	Salem State College
Walter Meinelt	Art	Master's	Mass College of Art
Walter O'Keefe	Music	Master's	University of Notre Dame
Richard Smith	English	Master's	Boston College
Denise Tenanty	Mathematics	Master's	Regis College



School Committee

Thomas Skinner, Chairman	Term expires	1999
Paul Woodbury	Term expires	1999
Gimmie Sue Valacer, Secretary	Term expires	2000
Roger Drysdale	Term expired	1998
Douglas Mathews	Resigned June	1998
Joel Shamon	Term expires	2001
Ellen Weitzler	Term expires	1999

SCHOOL COMMITTEE OPERATION

The Middleton School Committee holds regular monthly meetings generally once per month throughout the school year. Meetings are usually held on the second Thursday of the month at the Fuller Meadow School. Additional working sessions and meetings for special purposes such as budget and policy development are also scheduled. Interested citizens should check notices at Town Hall which are posted two days or more in advance of any scheduled meeting.

Sessions are open to the public and citizens are encouraged to attend. Individuals or groups may suggest an item to be placed on the agenda by forwarding a written request to the Superintendent of Schools or the Chairperson of the School Committee.

The School Committee has all the powers conferred on it by state law and must perform those duties mandated by the state. Its responsibilities are varied but relate primarily to policy determination. Some of the duties of the School Committee include:

- Preparation of an annual budget
- Program evaluations
- Approval of curriculum and materials
- Planning school services
- Collective bargaining
- Public relations

While the School Committee acts directly as the policy making body relative to general educational policy, it seeks input from a variety of sources in its deliberations.

The School Committee actively seeks the counsel and support of the administration, staff, School Councils, PTO, parents and the community. This input is generated through written and verbal communication within the school community, bi-annual Open Forums on pertinent topics (e.g. curriculum, school hours, transportation) and working closely with other Town Boards and committees. Individuals and groups wishing to address the School Committee at a meeting may do so on the agenda under "Remarks from the Public" or contact the chairperson by telephone or in writing.

SCHOOL COMMITTEE MILESTONES

In May 1998 Roger Drysdale completed his second term of service as a member of the Middleton School Committee. Mr. Drysdale chose not to seek re-election to the Committee. During his term of service, Mr. Drysdale served as a member of the School Building Committee and the Tri-Town Union School Committee. He served as chair of the Tri-Town School Union Committee during 1996-1997. His contributions are most appreciated and will be missed.

In June 1998 Douglas Mathews resigned his position as a member of the School Committee. Mr. Mathews had served as a member of the Middleton School Committee since 1994 including three years as Vice Chairman. His contributions are most appreciated and will be missed.



In May 1998, the community, upon the completion of the major addition and renovation project, formally rededicated the Fuller Meadow School. The Fuller Meadow Library Media Center was dedicated in memory of Norm and Norma Nathan. The inscription on the dedication plaque reads, "Dedicated to the memory of two longtime Middleton residents whose love of and dedication to the written and spoken word entertained and enriched the community and all of New England."

As part of the dedication ceremonies, a memorial garden was established in the Fuller Meadow Courtyard to honor Kyle Mullarkey, a Fuller Meadow student who died in June of 1997 after a long illness. The new Preschool Playground at Fuller Meadow was also named in Kyle's memory. His enthusiastic spirit and personal courage served as an inspiration to all in the school community.

MIDDLETON PRESCHOOL PLAYGROUND RIBBON CUTTING CEREMONY – FALL 1998

*(l to r) Andy Besse, Maggie Cristoforo,
Dylan Tinkham, Mrs. Mullarkey,
Elizabeth Perry*

Administrative Personnel Changes

In June of 1998 Dr. Joseph J. Connelly, Superintendent of Schools for the Tri-Town School Union, resigned to accept the Superintendency of the Stoneham Public Schools. Dr. Connelly had served as the Superintendent of Schools since December of 1993 when Middleton joined the School Union. In July of 1998 Mr. Thomas Reis was appointed by the Tri-Town School Union Committee to serve as the Interim Superintendent of Schools for the 1998-1999 school year.

In June of 1998 Dr. Cheri Webb accepted the position of Director of Special Education in the Andover Public Schools. Dr. Webb

had served one year. Dr. Frank Scott was appointed to the position of Administrator of Special Education in July after an extensive search process conducted by a committee made up of school committee members, teachers, administrators, parents and the Superintendent of Schools.

In June of 1998 Assistant Principal Ruth Dealy accepted the position of Principal in the Haverhill Public Schools. Mrs. Dealy had served two years as a teacher and administrator at Fuller Meadow and Howe-Manning. In July 1998 Dr. Malvena Baxter was appointed as Assistant Principal for the Fuller Meadow and Howe-Manning Schools.

Mission Statement

The missions of the Middleton Elementary Schools, in cooperation with family and community, are to instill a joy of learning in all students, to promote academic excellence, to be supportive of children's

social and emotional needs, and to constantly strive for improvement in these areas.



Core Values of the Middleton Elementary Schools

- All children can be successful if they are provided with opportunities to learn, are active in their own education, and are exposed to a variety of enriching experiences at school and home.
- A strong climate of respect between children and the entire school community is necessary for children to reach their potential as productive students and citizens.
- Effective education must be a partnership between school, home and community.

The major function of the School Committee continues to be the provision of the highest quality educational program within available funding resources.

The grade level organization locates the Preschool and Kindergarten through Grade Three at the Fuller Meadow School and Grade Four through Grade Six at the Howe-Manning School.

Curriculum renewal continues to be provided through a strategic planning effort, which addresses each major curriculum area on a seven-year cycle. During the 1997-1998 school year, the second year of a two-year phased implementation of the revised elementary language arts curriculum was completed. Both a Science Curriculum Committee and a Fine Arts/ Physical Education Committee engaged in curriculum revision in these areas in order to align them with the Massachusetts State Curriculum Frameworks. The second year of a five-year plan to integrate technology into the elementary school curriculum was continued.



MRS. PELRINE'S 6th GRADE SCIENCE CLASS

Left Photo (l to r) Allison Hoffman, Nicole Cottone, Kurt Pisa, Dylan Olmstead, David Hamilton, Sarah Mills

Right Photo (l to r) Brian Doucette, Rebecca Mills



MS. BEAULIEU'S GRADE 2 CLASS

Left Photo "Our Wild Rumpus" follow up for the book Where the Wild Things Are

Right Photo "Hands On" Study of Apple Counting (Did they get to eat the apples afterward?)

School Management and Governance Structure

The principal is responsible for the daily operation of each school. This responsibility includes curriculum, instruction, personnel matters, student issues and physical plant.

School Councils are in place in each school. Members include the principal, parents (elected), teachers (elected), and a community member (appointed by the principal). The role of the Council is to advise the principal on areas of school improvement. A three-year School Improvement Plan is developed by each School Council and approved by the School Committee. Highlights of the improvement plan for Fuller Meadow in 1997-1998 included restructuring of the delivery of the reading program to better meet the needs of individual children. Highlights of the improvement plan for Howe-Manning in 1997-1998 included the alignment of curriculum with the Massachusetts State Frameworks and a review of homework practices and procedures.

The Superintendent of Schools is appointed by the Tri-Town School Union Committee (Superintendency Union 58). The School Union Committee jointly employs the Superintendent (PK-6), the Assistant Superintendent, the Administrator of Special Education, the Assistant Administrator of Special Education, and the Director of Facilities and Operations as well as the secretarial and bookkeeping staff of the Central Office. The Superintendent acts as the Chief Executive Officer of the School Committee in the operation of the schools.

Last school year marked the fifth year of Middleton's membership in the Tri-Town School Union with Boxford and Topsfield. In the judgment of the School Committee, Middleton's membership in the Tri-Town Union has benefited students, teachers and the community. In June the Boxford School Committee communicated its desire to the Middleton and Topsfield School Committees to consider dissolution of the School Union or significant revision to the Union Agreement during the 1998-1999 school year.

The School Committee expects to devote much time and energy to the major questions and challenges presented by the potential dissolution of the existing School Union.

**School Administration
Tri-Town School Union**

School Superintendent

Joseph J. Connelly, Ed. D. (Resigned June 1998)
Thomas M. Reis (Interim 1998/99)

Assistant Superintendent

Bernard F. Creeden, Ed. D.

Administrator of Special Education

Cheri Webb, Ph.D. (Resigned June 1998)
Frank Scott, Ph.D. (Appointed July 1998)

Director of Facilities and School Operations

Kevin McGann

The Tri-Town School Union offices are located in the Fuller Meadow School.

The mailing address is:

Tri-Town School Union
Fuller Meadow School
143 So. Main Street
Middleton, MA . 01949

Telephone: 978 750-1955
Fax: 978 750-1936



Supervising Principal

Michelle Fitzpatrick

Office: Howe-Manning School Grades 4-6
Fuller Meadow School Grades PK-3

774-3519
750-4756

Assistant Principal

Malvena Baxter, Ed.D.

Office: Fuller Meadow School Grades PK-3

Preschool Coordinator(s)

Michelle Fitzpatrick 1998-1999

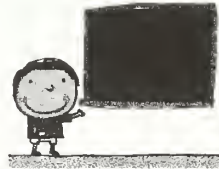
Ruth Dealy 1997-1998

Office: Fuller Meadow School

750-4756

Fuller Meadow School Teachers 1997-1998

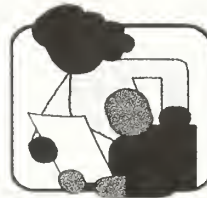
Catherine Driscoll
 Jeanne Lordan
 Karen Newhall
 Jennifer Fuller
 Beverly Napieracz
 Janet Riley
 Barbara Putnam
 Kimberly Morin
 Stacey Begin
 Eileen Mulligan
 Louise Kennedy
 Sheila Standing
 Debra Cameron
 Kelly Hobey
 Jeralyn O'Connor
 Joyce Williamson
 Susan Costas
 Tracy Cleveland



Kindergarten
 Kindergarten
 Kindergarten (.5)
 Grade One
 Grade One
 Grade One
 Grade One
 Grade Two
 Grade Two
 Grade Two
 Grade Two (.5)/Reading (.5)
 Grade Two (.5)/Reading (.5)
 Grade Two
 Grade Three
 Grade Three
 Grade Three
 Grade Three
 Grade Three

Howe-Manning School Teachers 1997-1998

Mary Anne Amero
 Barbara Deeley
 Judy Foley
 Kevin Husson
 Stephen O'Brien
 Stephen Belgiorno
 Cynthia Melancon
 Dina Hawkes
 Carolyn White
 Jane Ditto
 Mary Pelrine
 Jean Poirier
 Susan Olmsted



Grade Four
 Grade Four
 Grade Four
 Grade Four
 Grade Four
 Grade Five
 Grade Five
 Grade Five
 Grade Five
 Grade Five
 Grade Six
 Grade Six
 Grade Six
 Grade Six

Specialists 1997-1998

Diane Hekimian
 Pamela Dalton
 Fran Pierce
 William Gray
 Ann Montani
 Patricia Haines
 Pamela Moline
 Deborah Pazdziorny
 Meredith Pecci
 Penny Rogers
 Deanne Shiningier
 Lisa Besen



Art
 Art (.2)
 Music
 Music (.2)
 Physical Education (.6)
 Physical Education (.5)
 Technology Coordinator
 Technology Assistant (.5)
 Guidance
 Reading (.5)
 FM/ Resource Room (.5)
 FM/ Resource Room (.5)

Specialists 1997-1998 (con't)

Christine Gallagher
Muriel Gravalles
Louise King
Linda Cornell
Carlotta Miller
Aimee Carter
Ann Daniels
Nancy Jones
Marie Pelletier
Sandra Rubchinuk
Julie Norris
Susan Halsey

FM/ Resource Room
HM/ Resource Room
HM/ Resource Room
HM/ Resource Room (.5)
FM/ HM Speech & Language
FM/ Speech & Language(.3)
HM/ Library
FM/ Library Aide
HM/ Title One
Preschool
Preschool
Kindergarten Activity

Instructional Aides

Mary Ellen Cerullo
Faith McCarthy
Chris Wojciechowski
Mary Davis
Cynthia Dellea
Susan Enos
Joanne Colosi
Susan Soar
Janet Bilecki
Kathy Ciampa
Paula Hamilton
Christina Christianson
Tracy Cleveland
Carol Guthrie
Tracy Holmes
Garry Jackson
Denise Fisher



FM/ Preschool
FM/ Preschool
FM/ Preschool
Kindergarten Activity
FM/ Kindergarten
FM/ Special Education
FM/ Special Education
FM/ Special Education
FM/ Inclusion Grade 1
FM/ Special Education
FM/ RR and HM/Grade 4
FM/ Inclusion Grade 3
HM/ Special Education
HM/ Inclusion Grade 3
HM/ Special Education
HM/ Special Education
HM/ Special Education

Therapists (Part Time)

Gary Marques

Cynthia Dupont
Jeanne O'Dowd
Anne D'Angelo

Registered
Occupational Therapist
C.O.T.A.
C.O.T.A.
P.T.

School Physician

William Wiswell, M.D.

School Nurses

Dale Marshall
Jennifer Gilardi



Fuller Meadow
Howe-Manning

School Secretaries

Joan Garber
Lorraine Tonnello

Fuller Meadow
Howe-Manning

Food Service

Tynne Sweeney

Ann Richardson
Marcia Swift
Irene Ashley
Nancy Thurber
Patricia Gettings
Sandra Pollock
Sheila Lischner
Dianne Green
Cindy Hoffman
Grace Inglis
Suzanne Kolodziej
Tammy Lawrence
Gail Nichols
Nancy Avery
Cheryl Soriano
Cheryl Wiberg
Sharon McCarthy
Ann Couture

Director

[illegible]

Custodians

Ernest Morin

Carol Twombly
Manny Correia
Jarrod Horne
George Lougee



Supervisor of Custodians
Head Custodian FM

Fuller Meadow (PT)
Fuller Meadow (PT)
Fuller Meadow (PT)
Howe-Manning (PT)

School Enrollment October 1, 1997

	<u>(PS)</u>	<u>K</u>	<u>1</u>	<u>2</u>	<u>3</u>	<u>4</u>	<u>5</u>	<u>6</u>
Fuller Meadow School	(73)	97	102	90	108			
Howe-Manning School						106	76	93

DISTRICT TOTAL = 672 (plus 73 Preschool students)

Enrollment Trends 1988-1998

<u>Year</u>	<u>K-6</u>	<u>Increase</u>	<u>% Increase</u>
1988-89	371	25	7.0%
1989-90	382	11	3.0%
1990-91	396	14	3.5%
1991-92	426	30	7.5%
1992-93	427	1	0.0%
1993-94	475	48	11.2%
1994-95	530	55	10.4%
1995-96	582	52	9.8%
1996-97	625	43	6.9%
1997-98	672	47	7.5%

The above figures indicate an increase in enrollment in the Middleton elementary schools of 301 students over a ten-year period. This represents an 81.1 % increase in the student population over this time.

Fiscal Operation

The budget development process is an extensive and involved task during which the Committee must make difficult decisions to bring into balance both the financial concerns of the community and elements of high quality, appropriate educational

services. Increasing costs associated with increased enrollment, school transportation, special education, building maintenance, and minimal salary increases, must be addressed within the context of limited fiscal support from the state.

The School Department Operating Budget For The Year 1997/1998 Was As Shown:	
General Administration and Supervision	\$ 280,080.00
Instructional Salaries	\$ 1,450,812.00
Instructional Materials	\$ 153,265.00
Other School Services	\$ 51,441.00
Regular Transportation	\$ 126,179.00
Fuel and Power	\$ 60,722.00
Building Operations and Maintenance	\$ 157,990.00
Fixed Charges	\$ 189,996.00
Special Education	\$ 557,826.00
TOTAL	\$3,028,311.00

Grants

In the area of Special Education, the Public Law 94-142 is a federal grant that partially funds a special needs teacher, and a special needs teacher aide. An Eisenhower Math and Science Grant continues to support staff development programs in elementary mathematics, science, and technology integration. A Federal Title VI Grant was used to extend the implementation of technology in the two schools.

The Commonwealth of Massachusetts awarded the school systems of Boxford, Topsfield, Middleton, and Masconomet, for

the fifth year, a Comprehensive Health Education and Human Services Grant. This grant is used to offset a portion of a school counselor's salary as well as to support health curriculum implementation, teacher training and parent education K-12.

The Massachusetts Department of Education funded a Special Education Curriculum Frameworks Grant, which was used to increase the access of special education students to the general regular education curriculum.

The Tri-Town Educational Foundation is a non-profit local citizens' group that raises funds for the sole benefit of the Topsfield, Boxford, and Middleton Schools, as well as Masconomet. During the 1997-1998 school year funding provided by the Tri-Town Educational Foundation supported innovative program initiatives totaling more than \$20,000.00 in area schools.

Since 1986 the Tri-Town Educational Foundation has raised more than \$175,000 in the Tri-Town communities and has funded more than 150 innovative programs. Projects funded at the Fuller Meadow and Howe-Manning Schools in Fiscal Year 1997-1998 included: Author presentations by Gail Gibbons and Yoko Kawashima Watkins and "Inspiring Webs", a technology integration project.

The Howe-Manning School participated in the "Real Connections" program through a grant funded by the Bell Atlantic Ed Link Program. This grant enabled fourth graders from Howe-Manning to be involved in a distance learning technology project with other fourth grade classes from Lawrence, Beverly, Boxford and Topsfield.

The schools' Technology Plan benefited from a generous donation from local developer James Brady. This donation of

\$14,000 enabled the schools to place "Computer Teaching Stations" in five classrooms.

The school systems of Middleton, Boxford, Topsfield and Masconomet were awarded, for the fourth year, a continuing Comprehensive Health Education and Human Services Grant by the Commonwealth of Massachusetts. This grant continues to be used to support health curriculum implementation, teacher training and parent education for K-12.

The Middleton Board of Trade's "Best Bet" initiative once again generously supported the funding of field trips, student incentives and assembly programs, calculators and audiovisual equipment, including television monitors and videocassette recorders.

During fiscal year 1998 the Legislature and Governor established the Foundation Reserve Grant Program to supplement Chapter 70 aid in those communities facing exceptional and unique circumstances in meeting their educational responsibilities. Only 96 out of 152 applications were funded in whole or in part. Middleton received \$32,000 in general municipal relief because of high enrollment increases experienced in recent years.



Educational Reform

During the 1997-98 school year, the second administration of the State Grade 3 Reading Test took place in April. Results indicate that 81% of Fuller Meadow School third graders achieved performance at the Proficient or Advanced Reader level while 17% achieved performance at the Basic Reader and 1% were considered to be Pre-Readers. Statewide results indicated that 68% of students scored at the Proficient or Advanced Reader Levels; 21% scored at the Basic Reader Level and 6% at the Pre-Reader level. These results were consistent with the first year results in 1997.

Fourth Grade students participated in the first administration of the Massachusetts Comprehensive Assessment System (MCAS) in May. Students were tested in Mathematics, Science and Technology, and English Language Arts. Students were asked to respond to both multiple choice and open ended performance questions designed to measure mastery of learning standards contained in the State Curriculum Frameworks. First year results will serve as a benchmark for future improvement.

Curriculum Development

In accordance with the regular curriculum development cycle, a broad-based Elementary Science Committee consisting of teachers, administrators, and parents from Boxford, Topsfield, Middleton and Masconomet was initiated in 1996 to begin the review and research phase of the process for renewing this curriculum. An extensive review of research, literature, and successful practices will serve as the

foundation for the system wide philosophy and curriculum resource guide for learning standards and content designed to meet the State Curriculum Frameworks. The 1997-98 school year served as a field-test year with classroom teachers reviewing proposed units and materials under consideration for inclusion in a revised curriculum. The first year of a two-year implementation was initiated for 1998-1999.

Early Childhood Education

The Integrated Preschool program was relocated from the Howe-Manning School to the Fuller Meadow School for the 1997-98 school year. This program provides an environment in which both special needs and typical students share



participation in a developmental learning, cost-effective, and purposeful program. Seventy-three children were enrolled in two, three, or four-day programs during the 1997-98 school year.

Assessment Program

In June of each school year the Middleton elementary schools utilize the Iowa Test of Basic Skills in reading, language, math, and work-study skills in an effort to obtain detailed information on the ability and growth of individual students in numerous sub-skill areas in order that appropriate instructional programs may be prescribed.

These tests are administered in Grade Five and in Grade Two. Results are used by the teaching staff to identify and plan for areas needing improvement in curriculum and instruction, as well as to monitor student progress over time. Individual student reports are sent home to parents. As part of the transition to Grade 7 Masconomet Middle School personnel administer a math

test and Algebra Prognostication Test to Grade 6 students each May.

Results from all components of the standardized testing program are utilized in conjunction with direct teacher input in an attempt to monitor, evaluate, and continually fine-tune the instructional process. The administration is committed to an ongoing review of the assessment program in an attempt to maximize consistency between curriculum goals and the system for evaluating those goals. Administrators and teachers continue to actively consider research based alternatives to our current program that may better serve the needs of children.

Educational Technology



The School Committee implemented portions of Year Two of its five-year plan, which has been approved by the State Department of Education. The focus of the plan in Year Two included the establishment of a Technology Coordinator position to support the integration of technology into instructional practice, the establishment of a technology lab at Fuller Meadow School to be used in conjunction with classroom computers, the extension of Teaching Stations to ten classrooms, and professional development for professional and support staff.

This plan offers a comprehensive approach designed to provide the tools, curriculum, staffing and professional development necessary to enable Middleton elementary school students to use educational technology effectively as part of their everyday learning.

The Technology Plan provides a course of action that will ultimately require the investment of \$500,000 from a variety of public and private sources from 1996-2001. This will provide improved learning opportunities across the curriculum for all students; high quality professional development for all staff; parent and community education offerings; and efficient telecommunications between the schools, Central Office, Masconomet, the Flint Public Library, other town offices and eventually between home and school.

Year Two of the plan was implemented during the 1997-1998 school year. In Year Two a Warrant Article in the amount of \$24,000 was used to purchase computer equipment and peripherals in each school. Additional funds from the School Committee operating budget have supported staff development, software acquisition and professional development. An Educational Technology Bond Bill Matching Grant to the

School Department, in the amount of \$17,460 was used to assist with the development of networking capabilities at the Howe-Manning School.

Four underlying goals direct the elementary schools' technology initiatives in the Five-Year Technology Plan:



To provide a learning environment which enables students to master the appropriate uses of technology to produce higher achievement, increased creativity, greater application of critical thinking skills and the desire for life-long learning.



To provide evidence of the capability of educational technology to improve student learning.



To prepare teachers and staff for roles as teaming facilitators through continuous professional development opportunities.



To recognize and build on the human resources in the Middleton community to: share ideas and resources; generate strong support for educational technology; develop partnerships which allow for the maximum use of technology to be able to link curriculum and instruction at the elementary level, also with Masconomet, with the town and regional library systems and other educational organizations.

The plan continues to require broad support from many constituencies in town for it to be fully realized. The most pressing priority for Year Three is to begin the upgrading of the Howe-Manning School Lab by replacing existing six year old computers, now considered Category D by the State, with Category A machines for student use in Grades 4-6.



Teacher In-Service Training and Professional Development

The Fuller Meadow School Council Improvement Plan, the Howe-Manning School Council Improvement Plan and the District Strategic Plan each place a strong emphasis on professional development and training for staff which focus upon identified curriculum and organizational priorities as well as the diverse learning needs of children. The primary areas of focus for 1997/98 have included technology applications and integration, language arts, the diverse learning needs of children, writing across the curriculum, hands-on science and inclusion. Some Models for conducting professional development have included a combination of full day professional development days, after school



and weekend workshops, summer institutes, locally sponsored graduate courses, study groups, curriculum committees and a limited number of early release days offerings.

The School Committee continues to provide resources within its budget for professional development. In addition, the application of available grant funds from the State Department of Education has been instrumental in creating opportunities for teachers and other staff to maintain and update their professional skills. The School Committee continues to believe that professional development for staff is an important investment that will result in improved learning opportunities for children and increased achievement.

Special Needs Education

School districts are mandated by state and federal laws to provide special education services to those students with a special need who require support in order to make effective educational progress and to ensure that these services occur in the least restrictive environment.

As of June 1998 there were one hundred thirty-four special needs students in the Middleton elementary schools including fifty-four at Fuller Meadow, fifty-eight at Howe-Manning, six in out-of-district placements and sixteen preschoolers, fifteen of whom are enrolled in the Middleton Integrated Preschool Program operated by the School Committee. The percentage (16.6%) of students K-6 with special needs is below the state average.

During the 1997-1998 school year the Special Education staff consisted of a Special Education Administrator, a part-time Assistant to the Administrator, and a Special Education Secretary. These three positions were cost shared with Boxford and Topsfield as part of the Tri-Town School Union. Special Education staff at Fuller Meadow

and Howe-Manning included six full-time and/or part-time resource room teachers, two integrated Preschool teachers, sixteen full-time and/or part-time instructional aides (including those who worked with individual students whose needs require one-on-one assistance), a full-time counselor, one full-time and one part-time speech/language therapist, three part-time occupational therapists and one part-time physical therapist.

Support services offered to students in the Middleton schools range from monitoring their progress in the regular education classes and consulting with their regular education teachers, to total academics in a substantially separate language-based program. As a school system, Middleton is committed to mainstreaming our special education students and continues to pursue effective ways to integrate our children into regular education programming.

Middleton is a member of the Greater Lawrence Educational Collaborative, which is comprised of nine Merrimack Valley school districts who come together with

shared concerns. This Educational Collaborative provides programs for low incident special needs students, serves as a resource to address special education issues, and offers many needed support services including professional development.

Parent involvement in Special Education is strongly encouraged and welcomed. Middleton, Topsfield, and Boxford parents

of special education students have joined together to form the Parent Advisory Council (PAC). The PAC meets regularly during the school year. It has served as an arena for parents to discuss mutual concerns, arranged for a variety of interesting speakers, created a lending library, sponsored fund raising and other events, and provided input into the Special Education Department's programs and policies.

Closing Statement

The School Committee concluded the 1997-1998 school year with the recognition that 1998-1999 would involve a full examination of the governance structure and central office services provided by the Tri-Town School Union. During this review process the Middleton School Committee focused on ensuring an administrative structure that will best meet the educational needs of our children in as cost effective manner as possible for taxpayers. The School Committee continues to appreciate the

positive spirit and enthusiasm present in our community for education that helps to make our schools the best they can possibly be.

Respectfully Submitted,

MIDDLETON SCHOOL COMMITTEE





ORTH SHORE REGIONAL VOCATIONAL SCHOOL DISTRICT

Mr. Roger Drysdale, Middleton Representative,
North Shore Regional Vocational School District
Committee.

Edmund W. Barry, Jr., Superintendent-Director,
North Shore Regional Vocational School District.

North Shore Technical High School, operated by
the North Shore Regional Vocational School
District, is in its seventh year of operation in its
Middleton facility. The District administrative
offices are located adjacent to the high school.
The gymnasium is also a separate building
located behind the school. The facility also
includes a transportation building.

Student enrollment as of October 1, 1998 was
434. There continues to be a strong interest in
vocational education and in the small, homelike
atmosphere offered by North Shore. The school,
however, continues to experience space
shortages in classrooms, shop areas, the library,
the cafeteria, and the auditorium.

A Building Need Committee was established and
issued a report, which was accepted by the
School Committee on March 31, 1998. An
architectural firm, Mount Vernon Group, Inc.
Architects and Planners, is working with the
Building Facilities Committee, and a School
Expansion Feasibility Study is due the middle of
February 1999. It is anticipated that the North
Shore Regional Vocational School District will be
requesting bonding approval of the communities
this Spring 1999.

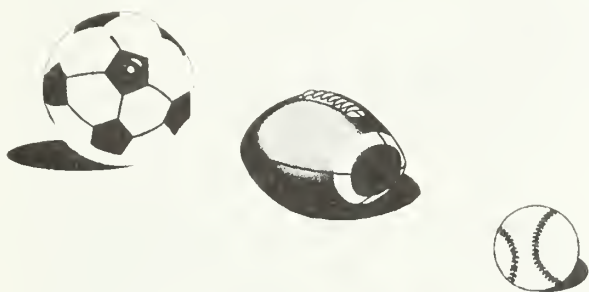
The Transportation Department provided
transportation for 405 students on a daily basis to
and from school. Also provided were four late
buses, four days a week, to transport students
home who stayed after school for various
reasons. Sports buses were provided to bring the
students to and from practice fields as well as to
all of the games. Four buses were provided on a
daily basis to bring sports players' home after
games or practice.

The Ninth Grade Exploratory Program has
students explore each vocational/technical area
on a rotating basis and their performance is
evaluated by the shop teachers to assist in proper
student course selection for grade 10.

North Shore Technical High School also serves a
large percentage of special needs students in an
Inclusion Model in many classes. Interscholastic
sports and intramural programs are conducted.
The school also participates in the *School-to-Work*
and *Tech Prep* Programs. The Cooperative
Education Work Program allows qualified students
to work at their trade prior to graduation.

Students from sixteen member communities, as
well as several other North Shore communities,
receive both academic instruction leading to a
high school diploma and vocational-technical
education in a wide variety of program areas
leading to a vocational certificate. Student
placement in trade-related employment, the
military, and further education averages 98% per
year.

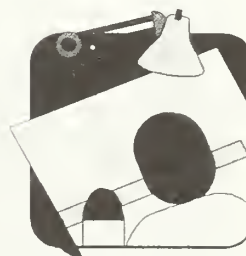
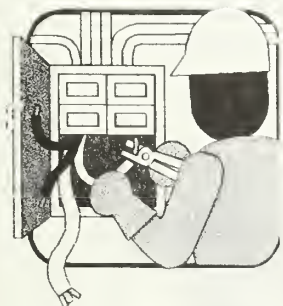
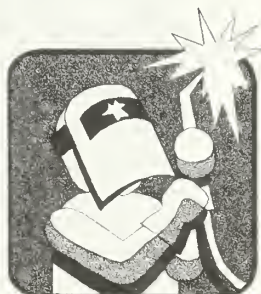




The development of the physical education and athletic fields has taken a step forward. Two fields have been developed. In the spring the field for physical education classes and softball came on line. This fall the soccer / football field was used. The baseball field will be on line this spring. The soccer / football and baseball fields were developed largely through the efforts of the Army National Guard.

Two more HVAC units have been replaced along with necessary ductwork and VAV boxes. The masonry addition was completed and is operational. With the assistance of the students in the various vocational programs, improvements have been made on the grounds.

Adult Evening Education at North Shore is a self-supporting program that offers more than 54 vocational-technical classes that enhance the professional and personal lives of the adult members of our community. The Program serves nearly nine hundred fifty adult students participating in a wide variety of courses. Popular fields of study include, computers, health, construction, welding, culinary, automotive and business skills. A number of courses have state approval for professional and trade license preparation.



TRI-TOWN COUNCIL on YOUTH and FAMILY SERVICES

With the support of its staff, board of directors and many other volunteers who worked so hard throughout Fiscal Year 1998, the Tri-Town Council met every challenge it faced and accomplished each one of its organizational goals for the year.

PROGRAMS

For Fiscal Year 1997-1998, the Council set as its primary programmatic goal to maintain, at a minimum, the same high quantity, high quality, and easily accessible services that were offered in FY 1996-1997. The Council met its goal by providing all the services for which it is so well known. In addition, it surpassed the stated goals by starting two new programs: **The Topsfield Summer Playground Program** and the **Tri-Town Teen Center**. Town officials and residents will be pleased to know that both new programs are fully supported by private grants and fund-raising, thereby not increasing the tax burden.

Our programs can be broadly divided into the following three categories: *Prevention, Intervention and Community Building.*

Prevention (defined as: services aimed at preventing substance abuse, violence, smoking and other unhealthy behaviors):

In FY 1997-1998, the Tri-Town Council provided prevention services to virtually all Tri-Town students and families. This was accomplished through its counseling staff (in Masconomet and in the community), through educational forums, and through written material. Our staff members participated in a variety of school assemblies, on the Substance Abuse/ Violence Prevention Task Force, on the Health Advisory Council and in most other prevention formats in this region.



In addition, the Tri-Town Council sponsored a number of school-related prevention activities, including a substance-free, all-night **Post-Prom Party** (127 attendees), an all-night **Graduation Party** (178 attendees) and a **Pasta Party** (45 attendees).



The **HORIZONS** program, our after-school enrichment program for elementary school children, is extremely successful in Boxford. It has struggled in both Topsfield and Middleton, due to an inability to locate a program director for those two towns. Janet Gronneberg, the Boxford director, reports offering 52 courses to 440 children in FY '98.

The Topsfield Summer Playground Program, created by Victor Dinarello, was a great success, serving an average of 50 kids a day for the six weeks it was offered. It should be noted that the **Middleton Recreation Department** served as an inspiration to the Topsfield program, as it has run a very popular summer program for many years. We are hopeful that Boxford will start-up a summer program this coming summer.

We are very pleased that the **Tri-Town Teen Center** has progressed nearly to the point of opening its doors for business. A planning committee comprised of teens and adults has worked throughout the year to develop the program and obtain funding. A program director is due to be hired in December 1998. The program will begin in January 1999.



Intervention (defined as direct counseling service to individuals, families and groups):

Our two Masconomet based counselors provided an average of 28 direct service hours apiece per week. Additionally, our community-based therapists provided 40 hours of employee assistance services, as well as many more hours of additional therapy for families, individual adults and children.

Community Building (defined as health, education and safety related services offered to the community as a whole):

The Tri-Town Council sponsored a wide variety of community building events this year. Some of the highlights were the **Pride Stride/Masco-In-Motion Event** (which was co-sponsored by Masco and attended by the entire 9th grade); the **World AIDS Day Candlelight Vigil** (80 attendees); the **Annual Tri-Town Council Dinner / Auction** (120 attendees); and the ever popular **Annual Fall Foliage Classic Road Race** (440 participants).



ADMINISTRATION

Based on an independent auditor's report, the Tri-Town Council closed FY '97 with net assets of minus \$2,200.00. Increased town revenues, increased grant revenue, increased membership, and conservative management, allowed us to nearly break even for this past year. Due to cash flow delays, a \$10,000 line of credit was accessed in June. This resulted in a \$6,300 surplus "on paper" at the close of FY '98 (N.B. As of August 1998, that \$10,000 loan was repaid in full).

Respectfully Submitted,

Gary S. Sinclair, Director



VETERAN'S SERVICES

My report this year again focuses on the importance of safeguarding the necessary documents relating to military service, marriage, life insurance and V.A. correspondence.

Discharge papers, marriage certificates or child custody evidence should be secured from fire, theft or loss. This could be one of the most important legacies a veteran will ever leave his family.

Other documents that should be protected and filed with other family papers are government and commercial life insurance policies, any V.A. correspondence with identifying claim numbers, social security numbers, wills, and where applicable, naturalization papers.

Please remind your families of survivor's benefits as well. These include V.A. pensions, dependency and indemnity compensation for service-connected death, burial benefits and interment in a national cemetery.

The few hours spent by the veteran organizing and protecting his or her documents, and informing his family can do much to avoid anguish during times of emotional stress.

Due to the part-time nature of my position as Director-Agent, please feel free to call on me in the event of an emergency at any time. For routine situations, please call during the day. Thank you.

Respectfully submitted,

George M. Farley

